THE LEGEND OF SPYRO

by:

The Altiere Bros.

FOURTH DRAFT
11/18/08

OVER BLACK

We HEAR an ancient voice that seems to be speaking from a faraway place.

VOICE (V.O.)
For centuries, we dragons lived in peace...

FADE IN ON:

EXT. AN ANCIENT WORLD - DAY

A pink sun rises over a magical landscape of rolling hills and lush forests. A SILVER RIVER weaves through the countryside, shimmering in the sunlight. And all around, there are DRAGONS...

YELLOW ones, BLUE ones, GREEN ones, dragons of EVERY COLOR. They fly through the sky, run through the tall grass and drift lazily down the river on their backs.

VOICE (V.O.)
We prospered and lived in harmony with all the creatures in the lands. It was a time of great balance.

A few dragons flap into an overgrown valley and emerge with mouths full of juicy berries. A couple others playfully chase each other through the clouds in a game of dragon tag. And we watch as a MOTHER and FATHER fly beside their DRAGON SON and cheer him on as he takes to the air for the very first time.

VOICE (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Perhaps we were all so blinded by the light, we were unable to see the darkness approaching on the horizon...

BLAST! An BURST OF FIRE explodes out of the clouds, knocking two of the dragons out of the sky!

VOICE (V.O.) (CONT'D)
We were unable to see...the coming of the one they call the Dark Master...

We hear a mighty ROAR and see two RED EYES shine out of the clouds. They shine BRIGHTER and BRIGHTER and WHITE OUT THE SCREEN. When we regain our focus we find ourselves in...

INT. A DARK ROOM - NIGHT

...where a small EGG sits on a soft bed of thatch, GLOWING with a luminescence that seems to come from within. A mighty RED dragon stands before it. This is IGNITUS. He finishes his story...

IGNITUS
And that is why you are so important, young one. For with you comes...hope.

Ignitus smiles down at the egg when -- BOOM! The room SHAKES! Ignitus's eyes widen. BOOM! The room SHAKES again and the entire temple starts TREMBLING! Dirt falls from the ceiling, faults appear in the walls. Ignitus tries to steady himself when--

CRACK! The stone pedestal supporting the egg starts to give way! The egg rolls out of its nest and drops--but Ignitus catches it just in time. Phew! The gravelly VOICE OF ANOTHER DRAGON suddenly BELLOWS FROM OUTSIDE:

DRAGON (O.S.)
They've found us! Guardians! Save the eggs!

Ignitus darts over to an OPENING IN THE ROCK WALL and peers out to see...

DRAGONS scrambling from roosts and taking off into the night with eggs in their mouths. ZIZZZ! BLASTS OF GREEN ACID suddenly come from out of nowhere, hitting a BLUE one in mid-flight!

IGNITUS
Cyril!

Ignitus watches in horror as the dragon clutches its chest and falls into the darkness, the egg falling with him. Ignitus scans the sky for the source of the blast and is shocked by what he sees...

A pack of HIDEOUS CREATURES is emerging from the clouds, HISSING in delight. They have SHARP CLAWS and JAGGED YELLOW TEETH and their bodies seem to consist of rotting LEAVES, TWISTED THATCH and DRIPPING MUD, as if they were cut from the earth itself. These ELEMENTAL BEASTS hang there in the sky, their red eyes gleaming.

ELEMENTAL BEAST #1
Surrender the eggs as the Dark Master has ordered!

ELEMENTAL BEAST #2
There is no use in resisting!

ELEMENTAL BEAST #3
Give them to us if you want your temple to stand through the night!

A YELLOW DRAGON suddenly bursts from the temple with an egg in its mouth. It is spotted by two of the Elemental Beasts and they DESCEND on him. One EXTENDS a sharp tail and STINGS the dragon like a scorpion! The dragon goes limp as the other Elemental Beast grabs the egg out of its mouth and flies off.

YELLOW DRAGON
(falling)
The eggs...! Protect the other eggs...!

And then he's gone. Ignitus turns away from the window and rushes to the egg.

IGNITUS
It is time, little one.

He picks up the egg and places it under his wing when-- CRASH! The wall suddenly EXPLODES, revealing FOUR MORE OF THE ELEMENTAL BEASTS!

ELEMENTAL BEAST #1
Give it to us now!

Ignitus turns away to shelter the egg and smiles.

IGNITUS
(to himself)
Isn't it nice...when your enemies line up for you...

He inhales and -- BLAST! Hits the beasts with a BURST OF RED FIRE! The beasts are BLOWN BACK and Ignitus takes the egg in his mouth and FLIES OUT into the night.

EXT. DRAGON TEMPLE - CONTINUOUS

Ignitus hits the sky, flapping as fast as he can. THREE OF THE BEASTS regroup and GIVE CHASE.

ELEMENTAL BEAST #1
He's defenseless with the egg in his mouth!

ELEMENTAL BEAST #2
He cannot use his fire!

They all CHARGE when suddenly -- Ignitus TOSSES THE EGG INTO THE AIR, BLASTS HIS SURPRISED OPPONENTS, and CATCHES IT AGAIN. One of the beasts falls from the sky but -- THE OTHER TWO KEEP COMING!

ZIZZZ! ZIZZZ! ZIZZZ! They spit their GREEN ACID at him! Ignitus does his best to DODGE but the beasts stay with him! BAM! One of them RAMS him from the side. BAM! The other one RAMS him from the other side! Both beasts suddenly pull up and go to RAM HIM AT ONCE but Ignitus HITS THE BRAKES and the beasts SLAM INTO EACH OTHER!

Ignitus smiles and ZOOMS past them. The beasts SCREAM IN RAGE and shoot off after him. As they pick up speed they start SPINNING through the air like flying eels. They get CLOSER and CLOSER and then -- SLAM! They connect with Ignitus's neck and the EGG FLIES LOOSE!

IGNITUS

Noooooooo!!

Ignitus watches in horror as it falls through the sky and SPLASH! Drops into the Silver River! Ignitus DIVES after it. The beasts FOLLOW and they all CHASE AFTER THE EGG as it heads downstream and into...

RAGING RAPIDS! The egg is BOUNCED around, narrowly missing sharp rocks. Ignitus follows and tries to grab it -- but the beasts GRAB HIS TAIL and pull him back. They SLAM him against the rock walls, sending BOULDERS dropping into the river! The egg barely avoids destruction!

Ignitus narrows his eyes. Enough of this. He flies out of the channel and towards a BRITTLE THICKET OF TREES in the distance. The beasts follow and he suddenly turns around in the air and--

BLAST! The trees IGNITE in an explosion of fire and the beasts are BLOWN BACK! Ignitus drops down to the Silver River and finally snatches the egg. He checks it -- it's still intact. He looks around -- what now? -- when something suddenly catches his eye...

A GLIMMER in the forest up ahead. Ignitus brightens. He casts a glance behind him -- there's no sign of the beasts -- and flaps off towards the glimmer.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

Ignitus lands in a quiet, woodland glen. The glimmer is gone now. He looks around and WHISPERS into the fog:

IGNITUS
Brothers! Please -- it is I, Ignitus the Dragon! I need your help!

Only the gentle rustling of the trees can be heard.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
I beg you, reveal yourselves!

Suddenly, little glowing ORBS OF LIGHT emerge from the wood. They appear to be...DRAGONFLIES. They circle around Ignitus, setting his desperate face aglow.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
There is no time to explain -- I call on the allegiance of our distant ancestry. Take this egg, raise it in secret, it is the only hope we have.

The Dragonflies exchange hesitant glances. One, a serious-looking bug with a strong, steady glow, flies to the fore. This is FLASH.

FLASH
Wherever there are dragons there is war! We are peaceful creatures, Dragon Ignitus -- don't bring your trouble to us!

IGNITUS
This egg will <u>end</u> all wars! It has been prophesied -- the dragon that will hatch from it will bring peace to all the lands! Please, you <u>must</u> help me!

The Dragonflies look at each other, unsure, when -- a shadow falls on them. They all look up to see -- the two Elemental Beasts circling in the sky. Ignitus gives the Dragonflies a pleading look. It's now or never...

Suddenly, a female Dragonfly with gentle eyes flies forward. This is LUNA.

LUNA
We will do what we can.

Flash looks at her and shakes his head. Ignitus smiles with relief and rolls the egg to her. The Dragonflies lift it up and carry it towards a hidden passage in the rock when--

ZIZZZZ! A blast of green acid whizzes past Ignitus! The beasts have found him! He casts one last gaze towards the Dragonflies then takes off into the sky.

SLAM! The beasts are suddenly upon him, TEARING and CLAWING at him. One of them RAISES ITS SHARP TAIL AND-- STING! Ignitus goes limp. He tumbles through the air and...drops lifelessly into the Silver River.

The beasts CACKLE in triumph and swoop into the glen. It's deserted -- there is no sign of the egg. They ROAR with frustration and SCREAM into the woods:

ELEMENTAL BEAST #1
Hide! Hide from us now but you cannot hide forever! The Dark Master will find you and prove the folly of this so-called prophecy!

ZIZZZZ! They BLAST THE TREES with their GREEN ACID and take off into the night.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. DRAGONFLY GLEN - NIGHT

We're in a secret valley hidden in the forest. Two Dragonflies flutter around the egg. Flash and Luna. Husband and wife.

FLASH
I don't know why I didn't stop you. I should have put my wing down!

LUNA
You and your wing. It's the right thing to do and you know it. Dragons and dragonflies have an ancient pact.

FLASH
But what are we going to do -- raise it as one of our own? We already have an egg!

LUNA
So what's one more?

Luna gives him a smile. Flash frowns, giving in. The wife always wins, even in the world of dragonflies.

INT. COZY DRAGONFLY DWELLING - LATER THAT NIGHT

Luna and Flash roll the egg into a soft bed of thatch next to a much smaller egg...a DRAGONFLY EGG.

Luna pats the eggs and dusts them off. She turns to her husband and give him a look. He blinks. What? Oh, right...

He flutters off, returning a beat later with some LEAVES. He places one on top of the dragonfly egg, covering it like a blanket. Luna smiles. He places one on top of the dragon egg. It sits on top of it like a hat. Flash smiles. Luna doesn't. He sighs and flies off again.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXPECTANT PARENTS MONTAGE

1. PAN DOWN a row of EXPECTANT DRAGONFLY MOTHERS, all knitting tiny little BOOTIES with happy little SILKWORM HELPERS by their side. At the end of the row, Luna is knitting an ENORMOUS pair of booties. Her SILKWORM HELPER desperately tries to keep up.

2. PAN DOWN a row of EXPECTANT DRAGONFLY FATHERS building tiny little CRIBS. At the end of the row, Flash is hammering the last nail into an ENORMOUS crib. Bang, bang, CRASH! The entire thing topples over. The other expectant dragonfly fathers laugh.

3. A DRAGONFLY DOCTOR holds a stethoscope made of sticks up to the dragonfly egg and lets Flash listen. Thump-thump, thump-thump. Flash lights up. The doctor then holds the stethoscope up to the dragon egg and lets Flash listen. THUMP-THUMP!! Flash is blown across the room!

END SEQUENCE ON:

INT. COZY DRAGONFLY DWELLING - NIGHT

The eggs sit in their nests before a flickering fire. Luna flutters before them with a warm smile.

LUNA
Any day now, Flash. Any day now...

Behind her, Flash gives her a look and then PASSES OUT. We PUSH into the embers of the fire and--

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. MOUNTAIN OF MALEFOR - NIGHT

A DARK MOUNTAIN is hideously framed against the dual moons. Its peak is shaped like a gargoyle, twisting unnaturally into the night sky. A MOAT of bubbling tar winds around it like an oily snake. It's bleak, horrible.

We MOVE inside...

INT. MOUNTAIN OF MALEFOR, ROOM OF SHADOWS - NIGHT

A large RED GEM sits atop a stone pedestal, bathing the room in an eerie glow. A small black BAT with oversized FANGS hangs upside down from the ceiling. This is POX. He watches as two of the ELEMENTAL BEASTS slither in, one holding an egg.

POX
(lisping, due to fangs)
Massster...the beasssties...they have returned...

The Elemental Beasts approach the darkest corner of the room and place the egg down like an offering.

ELEMENTAL BEAST #4
As you commanded, Master...

Two RED EYES appear in the darkness. They gaze down on the egg and narrow.

DARK MASTER (OFF)
(booming)
THIS IS NOT THE EGG OF PROPHECY!

The Elemental Beasts flinch and cower.

POX
(deliciously)
Oh, boy. Thisss isss gonna be good...

Pox watches with sadistic delight as one of the Elemental Beasts summons enough courage to step up to the red eyes.

ELEMENTAL BEAST #5
But...the Guardians! It is one they coveted! How can you be sure?

DARK MASTER (OFF)
YOU DARE QUESTION ME?

ELEMENTAL BEAST #4
We are sorry, master, we have failed you, let us take it away and--

DARK MASTER (OFF)
Silence! Leave it where it lies. I will make use of it...

The Elemental Beasts back away.

ELEMENTAL BEAST #5
We will return to the temple, we will find egg you seek!

DARK MASTER (OFF)
No.

The Elemental Beasts stop.

DARK MASTER (OFF) (CONT'D)
Your service has come to an end.

BLAST! FIRE suddenly explodes out of the darkness, reducing the Elemental Beasts to piles of ash! Pox giggles with delight at the display and the reflection of the red eyes appears on the egg.

DARK MASTER (OFF) (CONT'D)
As for you...your service has only just begun.

A claw reaches out and pets the egg.

DARK MASTER (OFF) (CONT'D)
And your brother egg will be found. It <u>will</u> be found...

The red crystal suddenly PULSES, filling the room with its crimson glow.

DARK MASTER (CONT'D)
Pox...I have a task for you...

Pox's eyes widen with delight. He launches off the ceiling and lands on the egg.

POX
Anything, massster! Anything!

As Pox waits for his instructions, we MOVE CLOSE to the egg and...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. COZY DRAGONFLY DWELLING - NIGHT

...where the other dragon egg sits in a bed of soft thatch next to the dragonfly egg. Suddenly, one of the eggs TREMBLES.

Luna flies up. What was that? She stares down at the eggs but...it looks like it was nothing. She shrugs and goes to fly off again when--

The other egg TREMBLES! Luna spins back around and watches with excitement as both of the eggs start to TWITCH and SHAKE. She turns and--

LUNA
Flash! I think they're hatching! I think they're both hatching!

Flash quickly appears by her side, frazzled.

FLASH
Okay, let's just stay calm. Breathe, honey, I need you to breathe! The important thing is not to panic...

He starts flying back and forth in a panic and--

FLASH (CONT'D)
I'm going to go boil some water!

He goes to fly off but Luna grabs him.

LUNA
Honey -- just watch.

Flash takes a deep breath and watches with Luna as the eggs continue to TWITCH and TREMBLE and...CRACK!

The expectant parents GASP as a LITTLE YELLOW DRAGONFLY pokes his head out of the smaller egg. He's cute, wide-eyed, and is a spitting image of Flash and Luna. The proud parents GLOW even brighter at the sight of him when-

CRACK! The other egg cracks open and much bigger head pops out of it! It's cute, wide-eyed and...looks nothing like Flash and Luna. It's a little PURPLE DRAGON.

Luna gives both of her babies a maternal smile. Flash looks at the dragon, not sure how to feel, then turns to the dragonfly and smiles proudly.

FLASH
My son will be named...Sparx.

Luna gives him a look.

LUNA
And our other son will be named...

Flash looks at the little purple dragon...and then looks away. He's not ready to accept this. Luna frowns at him and then smiles at her new dragon son.

LUNA (CONT'D)
Spyro. We will call him Spyro.

Luna smiles as the two babies look around at their new world. They see each other and...smile. Brothers. Then they both start WAILING. Babies.

CUT TO:

BABIES SEQUENCE

1. Luna sits in a rocking chair, gently rocking Sparx to sleep in her lap. PAN OVER TO SEE...Flash in a rocking chair, struggling under the weight of Spyro in his lap. Just when Spyro falls asleep -- CRASH! The chair BREAKS and Spyro falls to the ground, completely flattening Flash. And Spyro starts WAILING again.

2. Luna holds a bottle of GLOWING MILK to Sparx's mouth and he gently suckles it down. PAN OVER TO SEE: Flash, surrounded by DOZENS of empty bottles, frantically trying to keep up as Spyro chugs and chugs. The bottle empties and Flash reaches for another -- but he's out. Spyro looks at him and, you guessed it, starts WAILING again.

3. Luna takes a tiny diaper off Sparx and flies off. PAN OVER TO SEE: Flash removing an ENORMOUS diaper from Spyro. It's bursting at the seams. Flash winces and goes to carry it off -- but he loses his balance, flips to the ground and the diaper lands on top of him. SPLAT! Spyro finally stops wailing and...starts laughing. Sparx joins in and the two brothers laugh and laugh together.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. DRAGONFLY GLEN, FLASH AND LUNA'S DWELLING

Luna flutters in place, exercising on her "flutter-mill." She finally stops, out of breath, and flies over to what looks like a small scale on the ground. She steps on...but doesn't like what it says.

LUNA
Oh, I'm never going to lose this egg weight...

She shakes her head when--

FLASH (O.S.)
Luna! Luna, come quick!

LUNA
What? What is it?

FLASH (O.S.)
It's Sparx -- I think he's about to take his first flap!

Luna's eyes widen and she flies into the other room to see Flash fluttering in the air over Sparx and Spyro. They're a bit older now -- toddler age -- and Sparx's wings are just beginning to unfold.

Luna and Flash watch in awe as little Sparx flaps one wing...flaps another...and then FLUTTERS INTO THE AIR!

LUNA
He did it! Our little baby is flying! He's flying, Flash!

They watch in awe as Sparx awkwardly flutters higher and higher in the air, flying for the very first time.

Spyro watches his brother and gets a determined look in his eye. He turns and looks at his own undersized wings. Why not? He strains and...one of them flaps!

LUNA (CONT'D)
(noticing)
Flash -- look!

Flash turns to see Spyro's little wings starting to flap too! He and Luna watch as Spyro flaps them faster and faster and then jumps into the air and--

CRASH! SLAMS RIGHT INTO THE KITCHEN TABLE, BREAKING IT TO PIECES! Flash winces. Luna rushes over. And Sparx breaks into hysterics. Spyro shakes off the debris and shrugs. Oh well...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. DRAGONFLY GLEN - TIME PASSES

Seasons change in the glen. Summer to Fall to Winter to the colorful return of Spring. We MOVE INTO Flash and Luna's dwelling to see...

INT. DRAGONFLY GLEN, FLASH AND LUNA'S DWELLING

...Luna fluttering nervously in front of Flash.

LUNA
I don't know...maybe we should wait until next season...

FLASH

Luna, it's time. We have to let him spread his wings...

SWISH PAN TO REVEAL: Spyro, older now (the age and size he'll be for the rest of the story.) He's standing on the ground and trying to spread his wings. He gives them a little flap but nothing happens.

SPARX (OFF)
C'mon, bro -- you call that flappin'?

Sparx, also older, flies into frame.

SPARX (CONT'D)
It's the first day of school! If you don't get liftoff soon, we're doomed. We'll be stuck at the crud-beetle table at lunch! And you know what <u>those</u> guys eat!

SPYRO
I'm trying, Sparx, I'm trying!

Spyro flaps his wings again -- still nothing. Sparx slaps his forehead.

SPARX
Crud-beetles here we come.

Spyro gives him a look and smiles.

SPYRO
Hey -- we'll be sitting with them anyway thanks to that haircut Mom gave you.

Sparx's eyes widen.

SPARX
I told her to go easy on the antenna!

Sparx self-consciously adjusts his antennae. Spyro laughs.

SPYRO
And besides -- flying or no flying, I'm still faster than <u>you</u>!

Spyro turns and runs out the door.

SPARX
Hey! Wait up!

Sparx flies after him. Flash and Luna flutter to the door.

LUNA
Be careful, boys! Look both ways before you cross the stream! Don't talk to any strange bugs! And come straight home after--

FLASH
Luna -- they'll be fine.

Flash puts his arm around her and gives her a squeeze. Luna wrings her hands and tries not to worry.

CUT TO:

EXT. DRAGONFLY GLEN - DAY

Sparx chases Spyro through the glen. He flies past him, SWATTING him on the back of the head as he passes.

SPARX
Hah-hah! How's <u>that</u> for fast!

Sparx turns around and gives Spyro a taunting smile when -- BONK! He flies right into a low tree branch!

SPARX (CONT'D)
Ow!

Spyro laughs, ducks under the branch, and runs past him.

SPYRO
I don't know -- how's that for <u>clumsy</u>!

Sparx rubs his head and flies after him. They chase each other through the glen and soon catch up with other YOUNG DRAGONFLIES heading towards a clearing in the distance.

A CUTE DRAGONFLY GIRL flies past Sparx and gives him a smile.

DRAGONFLY GIRL
Hi, I'm Glimmer!

Sparx turns to her and -- his eyes widen. She's just so pretty! Big, fluttering eyelashes and a smile that lights up her face. Sparx's jaw goes slack and he completely loses the ability to speak.

SPARX
Oh, uh, hi, uh, I'm...uh...ummm... uhhhh...BWAAAAA!

Sparx suddenly FREEZES IN THE AIR and DROPS into a bush. Glimmer shrugs and continues after the other dragonflies.

SPYRO
Uh...Sparx?

Spyro runs up to the bush and parts the branches to reveal Sparx, still moon-eyed and slack-jawed.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Sparx? Are you okay?

Sparx shakes it off.

SPARX
Uh, yeah, I'm fine, I just tripped, that's all...

SPYRO
In mid-air?

Sparx pulls himself up and dusts himself off.

SPARX
Let's just get to class, okay?

He flies after the other dragonflies. Spyro grins and flies after him.

SPYRO
No problem, 'Bwaaaah.'

Sparx turns and gives Spyro a look.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
What? Isn't that you new name?

Sparx does a slow boil and flies off. Spyro giggles and runs after him.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
(singing)
Glimmer and Bwaaaah, sitting in a tree, g-l-o-w-i-n-g...

Sparx frowns, humiliated, and they follow all the other young dragonflies into the clearing. Right as they go, we see a small BLACK CREATURE APPEAR in the trees...

IT'S THE DARK MASTER'S BAT, POX! He chuckles to himself and flies off.

EXT. DRAGONFLY GLEN, CLEARING - DAY

Dozens of YOUNG DRAGONFLIES are gathering before a stern DRAGONFLY TEACHER.

DRAGONFLY TEACHER
Alright, alright, stop fluttering about and gather round...

The dragonflies settle and hover before the teacher. Sparx and Spyro approach and take their place at the back of the class.

DRAGONFLY TEACHER (CONT'D)
Now then. I see you all have found your wings. Very good, very good, no late fliers among us...

At the back of the group, Spyro shrinks down behind all the dragonflies and tries to hide.

DRAGONFLY TEACHER (CONT'D)
But I wonder how many of you realize just how <u>important</u> flying is. It is our greatest defense -- and the secret to our survival. What do I mean by that? Two words: <u>fight</u> or <u>flight</u>.

The Dragonfly Teacher flutters back and forth in front of the class.

DRAGONFLY TEACHER (CONT'D)
When we dragonflies are threatened, which do we choose?

He points to a GANGLY DRAGONFLY in the front row.

GANGLY DRAGONGLY
Uh...flight?

DRAGONFLY TEACHER
Correct! When we dragonflies find ourselves confronted by an adversary, which do we choose?

He points to a PRETTY DRAGONFLY with braided antenna.

PRETTY DRAGONFLY
Flight!

DRAGONFLY TEACHER
Exactly! And when we dragonflies are in a situation where we sense there might be even the slightest chance of danger -- which do we choose?

All the dragonflies answer this one:

DRAGONFLIES (ALL)
FLIGHT!

DRAGONFLY TEACHER
Very good! Flying is not just what we do, class, it is what we are. We're dragonflies -- not dragonfights!

He smiles and pauses for a laugh -- but one doesn't come.

DRAGONFLY TEACHER (CONT'D)
(frowning, to himself)
Never gets a laugh.
(to the class)
Anyway, today we will work on mastering your technique. I will teach you how to dart and hover, zig and zig and, most importantly, how to zoom.

The class "oohs" and "aahhs."

DRAGONFLY TEACHER (CONT'D)
Now come, come -- follow me to the training course!

The Dragonfly Teacher flutters off and all the students fly after him. Sparx goes to join the group but sees Spyro standing there looking at his feet. Sparx thinks for a second then suddenly flutters after the teacher.

SPARX
Hey, Teach! Can I talk to you for a second?

DRAGONFLY TEACHER
Yes, yes, what is it?

Sparx leans in confidentially.

SPARX
It's...my brother. He, well, he hasn't really, um, I mean...

SPYRO (OFF)
I can't fly.

The Dragonfly Teacher turns to see Spyro standing there on the ground.

DRAGONFLY TEACHER
Ah, yes. Young Spyro, isn't it? Been looking forward to having you in my class. Don't worry, son, we'll have you up off the ground before you know it. We just to have to get a little...creative.

Spyro looks up at him nervously. Creative?

CUT TO:

EXT. DRAGONFLY GLEN, CLEARING - A BEAT LATER

As a group of young dragonflies slalom down an obstacle course of trees and rocks, we PULL BACK TO SEE:

Spyro, hooked into an elaborate system of PULLEYS. Ropes are tied to his wings and his body is in a TRAINING SLING. The Dragonfly Teacher flutters beside him, holding the end of the rope.

DRAGONFLY TEACHER
You just need a little help getting the motions down, that's all. So, on the count of three, you flap those wings and I'll do the rest. Got it, kiddo?

SPYRO
Uh, sure. I guess I'll give it a try...

DRAGONFLY TEACHER
Good, good. Now -- one...two...and -- FLAP!

Spyro starts FLAPPING his wings as fast as he can and the Dragonfly Teacher pulls on the rope. The pulley system kicks in and Spyro starts to actually rise off the ground!

DRAGONFLY TEACHER (CONT'D)
That's it! Keep flapping! Don't stop now, boy!

Spyro FLAPS and FLAPS but then -- one of his wings gets caught in the ropes and CRUNK! The entire system starts to unravel!

DRAGONFLY TEACHER (CONT'D)
Whoa...whoa...WHOAAAA!!!

The Dragonfly Teacher is suddenly YANKED forward and PULLED THROUGH THE SYSTEM OF PULLIES! The entire system collapses, Spyro drops to the ground and the Teacher drops beside him, flattened.

DRAGONFLY TEACHER (CONT'D)
(woozy)
Not...bad...for your...first tryyyyyyyyy...

He passes out.

CUT TO:

QUICK SERIES OF SHOTS

The other Dragonfly Students watch with wide eyes as--

1. The Dragonfly Teacher and two ASSISTANTS fly under Spyro's wings like little fluttering training wheels. Spyro slowly rises into the air and then he's...released! He hovers in the air for a moment, flying on his own, and then suddenly DROPS out of frame with a CRASH!

2. Spyro stands in the middle of the clearing with some sort of HOSE in his mouth. PAN OVER TO SEE: the Dragonfly Teacher fluttering over a small HAND PUMP. He starts PUMPING and Spyro starts to INFLATE and RISE INTO THE AIR. But then -- Spyro SNEEZES, shooting himself out of frame and blowing the teacher to the ground.

3. A now very nervous Spyro sits in a small basket that's part of a huge SLINGSHOT. The Dragonfly Teacher's Assistants pull him back and ZING! He's shot out of frame! All the Dragonflies follow his trajectory with their eyes: UP, UP, UP...and then straight DOWN. CRASH!

EXT. DRAGONFLY GLEN, CLEARING - AFTERNOON

All the dragonflies LAUGH as Spyro stumbles out of the bushes. He shakes off some twigs looks up at all the laughing faces around him. One of the dragonflies calls out:

DRAGONFLY (OFF)
Hey -- what do you call a dragonfly who can't fly? A dragon-<u>walk</u>!

The dragonflies LAUGH even harder. Spyro looks down when a DRAGONFLY BULLY with a RED GLOW flies up.

DRAGONFLY BULLY
I don't think he's a dragonfly at all. I don't <u>what</u> he is...

The Dragonfly flies around Spyro, looking him up and down.

DRAGONFLY BULLY (CONT'D)
What's with you, No-Fly-Zone? Why can't you fly? Why are you so gigantoid? And are you...purple?

SPYRO
I...I don't know...I...I...

DRAGONFLY BULLY
You know what I think? I think you're nothing but a freak.

Spyro winces, hurt, when Sparx comes pushing through the crowd.

SPARX
Lay off! He's not a freak -- don't say that!

The Dragonfly Bully gives Sparx a look.

DRAGONFLY BULLY
You're one to talk. Nice haircut!

The crowd explodes with laughter. Sparx turns bright red and covers his antennae.

SPYRO
Stop it! Just stop it! Stop picking on us!

The Dragonfly Bully turns back to Spyro and gets right in his face.

DRAGONFLY BULLY
(threatening)
Why don't you make me?

Spyro glares up at the bully...and then sags.

DRAGONFLY BULLY (CONT'D)
Yeah. That's what I thought.

Spyro looks at his feet.

SPARX
C'mon, Spyro. Let's get out of here.

Sparx pulls Spyro off. As they go--

DRAGONFLY BULLY (OFF)
See you around, gigantoid!

More dragonfly LAUGHS accompany Sparx and Spyro as they disappear into the trees.

EXT. DRAGONFLY GLEN - AFTERNOON

Spyro shuffles through the forest. Sparx flies by his side.

SPARX
Don't let that guy get you down, bro. He's been a rotten egg since...well, since he was an egg.

Spyro shakes his head.

SPYRO
But he's right, Sparx. Why can't I fly? Why am I so big? And why am I the only dragonfly this color?

Sparx shrugs.

SPARX
Ah, you might as well ask why I'm so good-looking. Every dragonfly's different, that's all.

SPYRO
Yeah...I just think I'm more different than most...

Spyro sighs. Sparx gives him a look and tries to snap him out of it.

SPARX
Hey -- I know what'll cheer you up. Mom said she's making grub-burgers for dinner tonight. C'mon, I'll race ya!

Spyro brightens a bit.

SPYRO
Okay. But you know the rules. No flying, no narrow shortcuts, no-- hey!

Sparx is already way ahead of him. Spyro laughs and races after him through the pleasant woods. It's a fun little chase between best friends but when they emerge from the trees into Dragonfly Glen they find...

...their village under attack. STRANGE CREATURES are KNOCKING OVER NESTS and CHASING DRAGONFLIES WITH CLUBS. Like the Elemental Beasts, these creatures also appear to be cut from the earth -- their bodies are GRASSY, held together with THATCH and LOAM, their mouths gaping maws of rotting BONE. These are the GOBELINS.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Sparx...what's going on!?

SPARX
I don't know! We gotta find Mom and Dad!

Spyro and Sparx CHARGE INTO THE CHAOS and we MOVE TO--

ANOTHER PART OF THE GLEN

--where two Gobelins are holding Flash and Luna by the wings. They SHAKE them.

GOBELIN #1
Stop stalling, maggot! We know you're hiding him!

GOBELIN #2
Uh, boss? Technically, they aren't maggots. See, the maggot is the larval stage of--

GOBELIN #1
Shaddup! I know what they are!

Gobelin #1 SLAPS Gobelin #2 then turns to Flash and Luna.

GOBELIN #1 (CONT'D)
If you tell us where he is, we'll let you each keep one wing!

The Gobelins PULL at Flash's wings and FLICK Luna's antennae. Flash and Luna grit their teeth, defiant.

FLASH
We told you! We don't know anything about any--

SPYRO (OFF)
Mom! Dad!!

Flash and Luna spin to see -- Spyro and Sparx. The Gobelins see them too.

GOBELIN #1
There he is! The purple one!

FLASH
Spyro! Run! Get out of here!

Before Spyro can react, the Gobelins are all around him.

GOBELIN #3
C'mere, little dragon! You're coming with us!

Spyro backs away, scared and confused.

SPYRO
Dragon...? What are you talking about? I'm a dragonfly!

The Gobelins look at each other and explode in disgusting CHORTLES.

GOBELIN #2
Right. And I'm a fairy princess!

Gobelin #2 lifts his tunic like a tutu and starts prancing around.

GOBELIN #2 (CONT'D)
(singing like a princess)
Dee dee dee, look at me, aren't I pret-ty!

The Gobelins LAUGH and grin down at Spyro.

GOBELIN #1
Whatever you are, you're coming with us!

The Gobelins LUNGE at Spyro again and this time manage to GRAB him. They drag him over to a small CAGE and lock him inside.

SPARX
(frantic)
Mom! Dad! What should I do?! What should I--

SWAT! Gobelin #2 suddenly SWATS Sparx to the ground.

GOBELIN #2
That's what!

The Gobelins all explode into laughter.

SPYRO
Sparx...!

Sparx looks up, hurt, powerless to do anything. Spyro pulls at the bars of the cage as the Gobelins continue to CHORTLE. One of them still holds Flash and Luna tightly in its grip.

GOBELIN #1
I guess we don't need you two anymore. But there's one thing I need...a SNACK!

The Gobelin DANGLES Flash and Luna over his gaping maw and is about to drop them in when--

SPYRO
NOOOOOOOO!

WHOOOOOOSH! A BLAST OF ORANGE FIRE SUDDENLY EXPLODES FROM SPYRO'S MOUTH! It hits the Gobelins and sets their leafy hides ABLAZE!

GOBELINS
YAAAAAAHHH!!

They drop Flash and Luna and hop SCREECHING into the woods, STOPPING, DROPPING and ROLLING along the way!

Spyro looks down at himself, confused and shaken, and then looks at his parents.

SPYRO
What...am I?

CUT TO:

EXT. DRAGONFLY GLEN - LATER THAT NIGHT

Luna flutters around the village, cleaning up with the other dragonflies. Spyro chases behind, still shaken.

SPYRO
Come on, Mom, I want to know!

LUNA
I don't know what you're talking about, Spyro. You're my son...you're one of us, just like we've always--

Spyro jumps in front of her.

SPYRO
Stop it! Just tell me -- tell me what I am!!

Luna flutters there, frozen. Flash flies up and puts his hand on her shoulder.

FLASH
Luna, it's time for him to know the truth.

Luna nods and looks down. Flash turns to Spyro and takes a deep breath.

FLASH (CONT'D)
It's true, Spyro. You're not the same as we are. You're not a dragonfly. You're...a dragon.

Spyro's eyes widen.

SPYRO
A dragon...?

Sparx flies up behind him.

SPARX
Say what?!

Sparx looks at them all with his bug eyes and we--

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. COZY DRAGONFLY DWELLING - EVENING

Spyro sits before a flickering campfire. Flash and Luna flutter before him, their faces filled with the truths about to be told.

FLASH
You were given to us by a dragon from the great dragon temple up the river. We were meant to keep you hidden...but you are hidden no more. Whoever is searching for you will return, and I fear they will not stop until they find you...

Flash looks at Luna, who nods grimly.

LUNA
Wherever there are Dragons, there is war. And now that war has come to us.

Spyro looks up at the ones he once knew as his Mother and Father. Then he looks over at Sparx, sitting in the back of the room, his mouth agape. Spyro looks down -- he's never felt more like an outsider, and his face shows it.

FLASH
We will leave this place, find a new home for ourselves.
(MORE)

FLASH (CONT'D)
We will do what dragonflies do when they are threatened -- we will survive by choosing flight.

Flash puts his hand on Spyro's shoulder.

FLASH (CONT'D)
Don't worry -- we will do anything to protect you. You are still our son, Spyro.

Luna looks at Flash, touched. He's come around after all.

INT. DRAGONFLY GLEN, SPYRO AND SPARX'S ROOM - THAT NIGHT

Spyro and Sparx enter their bedroom, silently, avoiding eye contact.

Spyro sits down on his thatch bed and looks at his feet. Sparx flies up behind him. He goes to say something... but stops. For the first time, he doesn't know what to say to his brother. He finally shakes it off.

SPARX
So, a dragon, huh? Guess...that explains some things.

Spyro looks away.

SPYRO
Yeah...I guess it does...

Sparx flies around to face him.

SPARX
When you think about it -- it's pretty cool. I mean -- a dragon! Like--
(makes claws with his hands)
RAAAAARR!!

Sparx gives him a smile.

SPARX (CONT'D)
Hey -- I just thought of something. You can be my bodyguard! Now that would be cool!

Spyro doesn't smile back.

SPYRO
Yeah...cool...

Spyro slumps off his bed and picks up a small leaf SACK. He opens it up and starts throwing stuff into it -- berries, a blanket, some twine. Sparx looks at him.

SPARX
Spyro...what are you doing?

SPYRO
I'm leaving, Sparx.

SPARX
Leaving? What are you talking about?

Spyro turns to face him.

SPYRO
Sparx, if I stay here, I put everyone in danger. You heard what your parents said -- wherever there are dragons there is war!

SPARX
My parents? They're your parents too!

SPYRO
No...not anymore.

Sparx shakes his head, not understanding. Spyro takes a deep breath.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Sparx, I need to do this. I...need to find out who I really am.

Spyro turns and goes to throw his leaf pillow into his bag -- but Sparx grabs it.

SPARX
This is silly! Spyro -- nothing's changed. We're still brothers! Okay, so you're a dragon, not a dragonfly. What's the difference? Three letters and a couple of pounds?

Sparx takes the sack and chucks it under Spyro's bed.

SPARX (CONT'D)
Come on, let's just go to bed. Everything will be okay in the morning -- trust me.

Spyro looks at Sparx...and finally gives in.

SPYRO
Okay. You're right. Let's just...go to bed. Goodnight, Sparx.

Spyro hops into his bed. Sparx gives him a smile.

SPARX
Goodnight...bodyguard. Raaaaar!!

Sparx laughs. Spyro does too...but we can see he doesn't mean it.

INT. DRAGONFLY GLEN, SPYRO AND SPARX'S ROOM - LATER

Sparx is asleep in his bed, gently talking in his sleep.

SPARX
(talking in sleep)
No, Glimmer, my name is Sparx...not Bwaaaa...

We PAN OVER to see Spyro, also asleep. Or maybe not. His eyes suddenly open. He quietly gets up, retrieves his sack from under the bed and tiptoes to the door. Before he leaves, he turns and gives his dragonfly brother one last look.

SPARX (CONT'D)
(talking in sleep)
Oh, hey...have you met my bodyguard...?

Spyro sighs...and tiptoes out.

INT. DRAGONFLY GLEN, FLASH AND LUNA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Spyro appears at the door and peeks in at Flash and Luna, asleep in a hammock. He gazes at them...and then drops his head and tiptoes into the darkness.

EXT. DRAGONFLY GLEN - NIGHT

Spyro walks through his village, sack slung over his shoulder, giving the glen he's called his home one last glance. He looks at the little dwellings and the tiny campfire pits...and then walks off into the night.

EXT. OUTSKIRTS - NIGHT

Spyro makes his way down a dark path. Moonlight barely penetrates the thick canopy of trees...trees with branches that REACH out at him like claws.

Mysterious NOISES echo all around him and strange SHADOWS cross his path. Spyro looks around, afraid.

Are those...FIGURES in the bushes? Or is it just his imagination? Spyro shivers...and pushes on. But then--

--what's that? He SPINS towards a RUSTLING in the bushes. Or <u>that</u>?! He SPINS again and starts walking backwards, crouching, trying to make himself smaller. The sounds of the forest seem to MULTIPLY, AMPLIFY and -- it's too much for him. He turns and RUNS.

EXT. DARK FOREST - NIGHT

Spyro runs through the thick forest, branches TEARING at him, bushes TRIPPING him...until he gets to a clearing.

Where is he? He looks around, lost, scared, confused. He tries to get his bearings...but he doesn't know where to turn. He looks down. Guess he could camp here..

EXT. DARK FOREST - A MOMENT LATER

Spyro drops some sticks onto a small pile of leaves. He picks up two of them, kneels down and tries RUBBING them together. Nothing happens. He RUBS harder. They don't even smoke. He looks at the leaves and gets an idea.

He stands up and looks around. Yeah...yeah, why not? He takes a deep breath, leans over the leaves and BREATHES! Nothing. He shakes his head. Why can't he do it again? Maybe he's gotta breathe harder. He takes a few steps back, gets a running start and BREATHES!

Still nothing.

He sits back down in front of the pile of leaves and sighs. He pulls his blanket out of his sack, pulls it over his little wings, and shakes his head.

SPYRO
Some <u>dragon</u> I am...

Spyro shivers, clutches the blanket tighter, and tries to block out the scary sounds that surround him.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MOUNTAIN OF MALEFOR, ROOM OF SHADOWS - NIGHT

The RED GEM glows, casting the shadow of a YOUNG DRAGON on the wall. Beside it, the red eyes of the Dark Master gleam from the darkness.

DARK MASTER (OFF)
Be still, my pet...

Pox swings into view, again hanging upside-down from the ceiling.

POX
Hey...I thought I wasss your pet. I mean, who found that pesssky purple pessst for you?

The Dark Master GROWLS. Pox gulps.

POX (CONT'D)
Sssorry, I'll be quiet...

Pox clams up and watches as--

WHOOSH! Fire suddenly shoots out of the darkness and strikes the gem! The flames swirl and dance inside, illuminating an eddy of what appears to be a host of GHOSTLY DRAGONS within. And then-- CRACK! The fire shoots back out of the gem and connects with the shadow of the young dragon as if completing a circuit. The shadow SHUDDERS!

DARK MASTER (OFF)
Yes...embrace the darkness! Give into it...let it fill you up...

The shadow of the dragon steadies itself, twitches, and then...STARTS TO GROW BEFORE OUR EYES.

DARK MASTER (OFF) (CONT'D)
Yes! Let it take away all your fear... let it grow within you and give spark to your darkest powers...

The shadow GROWS EVEN BIGGER when, from off screen:

GOBELIN #2 (OFF)
My lord, we found it!

The gem DIMS, the shadow of the young dragon fades, and the red eyes turn to see Gobelins #1 and #2 entering.

GOBELIN #2 (CONT'D)
It was right where the little bat said it was...

Pox nods proudly. The red eyes turn on the Gobelins.

DARK MASTER (OFF)
Then why is it not before me?

The Gobelins GULP.

GOBELIN #2
Uh, well, we certainly did not want to disappoint your greatness the Dark Master. But...

GOBELIN #1
...it breathes fire!

The red eyes narrow.

DARK MASTER (OFF)
Fire? You think that was fire? Oh, foolish, foolish Gobelins. How surprised you'll be when you feel the fury of TRUE DRAGON FIRE!

The red eyes FLASH. The Gobelins wince and look at each other.

GOBELIN #1
Are you thinking what I'm thinking?

GOBELIN #2
Yep -- we're toast!

The Gobelins close their eyes and brace themselves...but nothing happens. Gobelin #2 opens one of his eyes and looks around.

GOBELIN #2 (CONT'D)
We're not toast?

The red eyes dim.

DARK MASTER (OFF)
You have failed me -- make no mistake of that. But your folly may prove valuable after all...

The Gobelins relax. Pox frowns.

POX
Aw, come on! At leassst char-broil one of them!

DARK MASTER (OFF)
The dragon of prophecy will not stay in hiding any longer. Oh, no...he will itch with questions...and there is only one place he can go for answers...

POX
Oooh, I know, I know! The Dragon Temple!

The Gobelins step up.

GOBELIN #1
We will wait for him there and grab him when he--

DARK MASTER (OFF)
No. You will return here and inform me of his arrival. By then...my pet will be ready...

The RED GEM suddenly GLOWS again, illuminating the shadow of the young dragon. It stumbles forward and steps into the light. It's black, glistening, awkward on its feet, and there's something feminine about it. It SNARLS like a rabid dog.

POX
Whoa. Glad ssshe's on <u>our</u> ssside...

The Gobelins stand there staring at the monstrosity when--

DARK MASTER (OFF)
(to the Gobelins)
NOW GO! DO NOT FAIL ME AGAIN!

The black dragon suddenly opens its mouth and FILLS THE ROOM WITH BLACK FIRE! The Gobelins turn and run. The Dark Master chuckles.

DARK MASTER (OFF) (CONT'D)
Yes, you will do nicely...

A claw extends out of the darkness and pets the black dragon's back.

DARK MASTER (OFF) (CONT'D)
I shall name you after fire's last gasp. I shall name you...CYNDER!

Pox's eyes widen in delight.

POX
'Cynder!' Brilliant! It worksss on ssso many different levelsss! I guesss that'sss why they call you the <u>massster</u>!

The black dragon CYNDER lets out a MONSTROUS ROAR and we--

CUT TO:

EXT. DARK FOREST - EARLY MORNING

Spyro WAKES with a start.

SPYRO
Wha--? Where am I...?

Spyro looks around...and then remembers.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Oh, right. Still here. Still...alone.

He gets up and stretches. He looks at the rising sun and...his face brightens a bit. Maybe this isn't so bad after all. He picks up his sack and...

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Okay, let's see what's on the menu for breakfast today. Maybe some sugar root, a couple pollen cakes or...

He reaches into his sack but...

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Huh?

He digs around inside then turns it upside down. Empty?

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Where's all the stuff I packed?

Then he sees them -- little white SPIDERS, walking in a row, carrying away his food!

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Hey -- get back here!

The spiders walk faster, SQUEALING and SQUEAKING as they go. Spyro gets up and chases them through the clearing towards a...

DARK CAVE

The little white spiders disappear inside. Spyro stops. It's <u>really</u> dark in there. His stomach GRUMBLES. He takes a deep breath, steels himself, and enters the cave.

INT. DARK CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Spyro looks around, squinting into the darkness.

SPYRO
Uh...hello? Little spider thingies? I'd really appreciate if you gave my breakfast back. I'd be willing to share...

He blinks his eyes and they finally adjust to see the little white spiders crawling towards...

A HUGE WHITE SPIDER HANGING FROM A WEB! It's gotta be twice Spyro's size!

SPYRO (CONT'D)
AAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHH!!!

Spyro turns to run off but -- runs right into another web! He's STUCK!

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Wha--?! Ahhhhhhh!!

Spyro frantically tries to free himself as the large white spider drops off its web and crawls towards him. It gets right in his face and--

WHITE SPIDER
(spoiled little kid's voice)
Oooooh! A dwagon!? I caught a dwagon!
(calling off screen)
Mummy! Daddy! I caught a dwagon!

Spyro's eyes widen in fear as two EVEN BIGGER SPIDERS crawl in!

MOM SPIDER
A dragon? Oh, honey, I'm so proud of you!

DAD SPIDER
(skeptically)
A dragon? Let me see that...

The Dad squints at Spyro.

DAD SPIDER (CONT'D)
Well, slap some wings on me and call me a butterfly! It <u>is</u> a dragon! Good work, son!

WHITE SPIDER
Can I eat it now, Mummy? Huh? Can I?! Can I?!

MOM SPIDER
You already had your breakfast. Wrap it up and I'll make dragonburgers for lunch.

The tiny spiders CHEER from the ground.

SPYRO
Dragonburgers?! Wait, come on, look at me, there's not enough meat on me for dragonburgers!!

The White Spider picks Spyro up, holds him to its mandibles and starts SPINNING him round and round, cocooning him in a GOOEY WEB.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
No -- stop! Stooooo--

Spyro's face is suddenly lost in the cocoon, cutting off his breath. He struggles for air as the rest of his head disappears under the web...

...and then the cocoon is complete. The White Spider turns and starts carrying it off down a dark cavern when -- a TORCH appears, held by a CLOAKED FIGURE.

CLOAKED FIGURE
Get back, beasts!

The figure waves the torch at the giant spiders, making them SHRIEK and RECOIL!

MOM SPIDER
Ahhh! My eyes!

DAD SPIDER
Oy, what are you trying to do, blind us?!

The cloaked figure leaps in front of the White Spider, waving the torch it its face. It recoils and drops the cocoon.

WHITE SPIDER
Mummy!!!!

The figure suddenly pulls out a SWORD and SLICES the cocoon open. Spyro slides out, covered in glistening goo and barely conscious.

CLOAKED FIGURE
(to Spyro)
Come, little one!

The cloaked figure drags Spyro out of the cave. The little spiders start to CRY LIKE BABIES and the Mother and Father Spiders charge after him, chomping their mandibles and SHOOTING webs at him!

The figure suddenly spins around, raises a BOW and shoots an ARROW at ceiling of the cave. CRACK! An avalanche of rubble breaks loose, trapping the spiders inside.

EXT. DARK FOREST - MORNING

The figure drags Spyro out of the cave and puts him down. Spyro limply scrambles to his feet, wiping the goo out of his eyes and backing away.

SPYRO
Who...who are you?

The figure lowers its cloak to reveal...the proud face of a CHEETAH WARRIOR. He smiles at Spyro with kind eyes.

HUNTER
I am Hunter, of the Cheetahs. It is an honor to meet you, great dragon of prophecy.

Hunter dramatically drops to one knee and BOWS.

SPYRO
(confused)
Great dragon of...what?

Hunter stands up and looks at Spyro.

HUNTER
Great dragon of <u>prophecy</u>...

Hunter dramatically drops to one knee and BOWS again. Spyro blinks at him.

SPYRO
Um...I'm sorry...I don't know what that is...

Hunter looks up at him.

HUNTER
What? Is it possible you do not know? Has no one told you who you are...?

SPYRO
Who I am? I...I barely know <u>what</u> I am...

Hunter shakes his head and stands up.

HUNTER
Amazing. Someone whose destiny is so full of light...but is still so in the dark.

SPYRO
My...destiny? Please, tell me what you know about me. Why did you call me a...dragon of prophecy?

Hunter dramatically drops to one knee and BOWS again. Spyro looks at him.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Uh, why do you keep doing that?

Hunter stands back up.

HUNTER
I'm sorry...it is a custom of my people. A sign of...respect when those words are spoken.

SPYRO
What words? 'Dragon of prophecy?'

Hunter dramatically drops to one knee and bows again.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
You don't have to keep doing that! Can you just tell me what you know about me?

Hunter stands up again.

HUNTER
I'm sorry, but I'm afraid that is not my story to tell, little one. But I <u>can</u> tell you this -- I have been searching these lands for you for a very long time. All the creatures have, the Cheetahs, the Mole People, the--

SPYRO
(in awe)
Mole People...?

He gives Spyro a warm smile.

HUNTER
Our allies under ground -- rarely seen, but always there.

Spyro looks down, amazed, as if he's expecting something to pop out of the ground at any moment.

HUNTER (CONT'D)
It will be a great comfort to everyone to know you are still alive, great dragon of-

Hunter goes to drop to one knee again but--

SPYRO
(stopping him)
Okay, please, you don't have to keep doing that!

Hunter stands back up.

HUNTER
Sorry. Old habits.
(looks around)
Come, we must get you to the temple of your ancestors. I only hope that we are not too late.

Hunter puts his cloak back over his head and disappears into the woods. Spyro hesitates, still trying to process everything he's heard, then turns and follows.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. A BLASTED LANDSCAPE - AFTERNOON

The terrain is beginning to change. Lots of CHARRED TREES and BURNT BRUSH. The ground is darker too, as if the dirt has been mixed with ASH.

Hunter emerges from the trees. Spyro follows behind, his eyes wide.

SPYRO
What happened here, Hunter?

HUNTER
These are dark times, little one. The land and its creatures have suffered much.

SPYRO
But why? Who did all this?

Hunter takes a deep breath.

HUNTER
The one you have been hidden from. The evil one, the one they call--

Suddenly, there's a RUSTLING in the bushes. Hunter steps in front of Spyro, his BOW suddenly in hand.

SPYRO
What is it?

Hunter raises his hand to silence him. The RUSTLING happens again.

HUNTER
(whispering)
Stay here.

Hunter puts an arrow in his bow and starts moving towards the bushes. Spyro holds his breath as Hunter steps CLOSER and CLOSER and--

A BALL OF LIGHT suddenly BURSTS OUT OF THE BUSHES! Is that...

SPYRO
Sparx?!

SPARX
Spyro! Finally! I've been--

SWAT! Hunter suddenly SWATS Sparx out of the air.

SPARX (CONT'D)
OOF!!

Sparx slams onto the ground.

SPARX (CONT'D)
Hey, what's the big -- AAAAAAHHH!

Hunter raises a foot and is about to STEP ON HIM when--

SPYRO
Hunter -- no! He's my brother!

Hunter freezes.

HUNTER
Your...brother?

Hunter looks at Sparx, confused. Sparx shrugs and dusts himself off.

SPARX
Well -- brother from another mother.

He flies back into the air and gives Hunter a look.

SPARX (CONT'D)
So who's the furball?

Hunter narrows his eyes, insulted.

SPYRO
It's okay, Sparx, he's a friend.

SPARX
A friend, huh?

He flies right up to Hunter's face.

SPARX (CONT'D)
Well, listen up, friend. You swat me like that again and I'll pull your whiskers right off, got it, meow-mix?

Hunter glares at Sparx and re-quivers his arrow. Spyro looks at Sparx and smiles.

SPYRO
Sparx...you came after me...

Sparx smiles back.

SPARX
We are brothers, Spyro, no matter who our parents are. And that means -- you go on a dangerous journey, I go on a dangerous journey. Got it?

Spyro grabs Sparx and gives him a hug.

SPYRO
Thanks, Sparx.

Sparx squirms out of his grip and straightens his antenna.

SPARX
Hey, watch the antenna. You never know what kinda hot bugs we'll run into out here.

Spyro laughs.

SPYRO
Yeah -- like you'd be able to talk to them if we did! The most you've ever gotten out, and I quote, is--

Spyro makes the "deer in headlights" face Sparx made when he saw Glimmer.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
(impersonating Sparx)
'BWAAAA!'

Sparx frowns.

SPARX
I'll give you 'BWAAAA!'

He rushes at Spyro but -- Hunter steps in front of him and Sparx bounces off his chest. BONK!

SPARX (CONT'D)
Hey!

HUNTER
If we want to get to the temple before dark, we must make haste.

Hunter turns and heads off. Spyro looks at Sparx.

SPYRO
I'm really glad you came.

SPARX
Yeah, yeah. Don't get all weepy on me.

Spyro chuckles and they follow Hunter off.

SPARX (CONT'D)
So what's the deal with this guy? I don't like cats. You ever see them clean themselves? They use their tongues. Disgusting...

SPYRO
Don't worry, Sparx. He was sent to find me, protect me.

SPARX
You? C'mon...

SPYRO
No, really. Watch. I am...
(to Hunter)
'The great dragon of prophecy!'

Hunter immediately turns, drops to one knee and bows. Sparx looks at Spyro in awe. Hunter, realizing he's being messed with, gives them a look.

HUNTER
I shall not fall for that one again.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BLASTED LANDSCAPE - LATER THAT DAY

As the sun sets behind them, Spyro and Sparx follow Hunter through the blackened and scarred terrain.

SPARX
Ah, Mom and Dad will be fine. I left them a note.

Sparx blinks.

SPARX (CONT'D)
Actually, wait a minute...I meant to leave them a note...
(he shrugs)
Ah, they'll be fine anyway.

Spyro rolls his eyes. Sparx looks around at the bleak landscape.

SPARX (CONT'D)
Boy, this place sure could use a makeover, huh? Maybe a couple bushes here, a pond over there--

HUNTER
Quiet, glowbug.

SPARX
Glowbug? Who you calling glowbug, furface?

HUNTER
(ignoring him)
We are here.

Hunter points to...the DRAGON TEMPLE looming in the distance. It's an ominous sight. Spyro gazes at it, his eyes wide.

SPYRO
That's...where I came from...?

It's larger, more majestic, than anything he's ever seen. Spyro stares at it, not sure how to feel, when Hunter begins to ascend a steep STAIRCASE carved in the rock.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. DRAGON TEMPLE - DUSK

Hunter and Spyro emerge at the top of the staircase, close to the temple's stone entryway.

From this close, it looks decrepit, falling apart, like it's been abandoned for years. Sparx flies up behind them.

SPARX
No offense but...your home is kind of a dump.

Spyro gives Sparx a look. Sparx shrugs.

SPARX (CONT'D)
I said 'no offense.'

Spyro turns back to the temple and follows Hunter through a gap in the stone doors.

INT. DRAGON TEMPLE - CONTINUOUS

The walls are CRACKED, the ceiling is CAVED IN, and the floors are covered in DEBRIS. A few beams of sunlight stream in through the cracks, but otherwise it's dark.

Spyro and Hunter enter, stepping through the RUBBLE. Sparx flies beside them.

SPYRO
It doesn't look like anyone's been here for years...

HUNTER
We may be too late after all...

Hunter shakes his head when--

SPARX
Hey, look -- dragon graffiti!

Sparx flies up to the wall, LIGHTING IT UP WITH HIS GLOW TO REVEAL -- CARVINGS in the stone. It's an ancient FRESCO telling a tale of...DRAGONS.

SPARX (CONT'D)
Wow, if these are your ancestors, you are <u>really</u> due for a growth spurt.

Spyro gazes up at the carvings. He sees noble dragons...proud dragons...strong dragons. They seem to stare back at him...stare <u>into</u> him, invoking feelings he's never felt before. Is this really...what he is? What...he's going to become?

Spyro runs his fingers over the carvings...and then sees something at the end of the room. It looks like...a nest of thatch lying in the rubble of a stone pedestal.

Spyro approaches and picks it up. It's just big enough...for an egg. Could it be...?

Suddenly -- a BOOMING VOICE shakes the room!

VOICE (OFF)
WHO DARES INVADE THE SACRED TEMPLE OF THE DRAGONS?!

Spyro drops the nest and spins to face Sparx.

SPYRO
What was that?

SPARX
I don't know -- but I don't want to find out! Let's get out of here!

They turn and charge for the door.

HUNTER
No, wait--

Suddenly -- AN ENORMOUS RED DRAGON DROPS IN FRONT OF THEM!

SPYRO/SPARX
AHHHHHHHHHHHH!

Spyro and Sparx dart around him and run out. The red dragon FREEZES, realizing something, and we see it's Ignitus! He looks much WEAKER than when we last saw him. He sees Hunter and it suddenly dawns on him. He turns and starts after Spyro and Sparx.

IGNITUS
Wait! Come back!

Ignitus flies out after them. Hunter follows.

EXT. DRAGON TEMPLE, STAIRCASE - CONTINUOUS

Spyro tears down the stone staircase as fast as he can. Sparx flies behind, trying to PUSH him.

SPARX
Faster -- <u>faster</u>! We're so stupid -- what did we expect to find at dragon temple?!?

Suddenly, Ignitus FLIES INTO VIEW beside them.

IGNITUS
Stop! Please!! I mean you no harm!

But Spyro and Sparx just keep charging down the steps.

SPARX
Yeah, right! Big scary dragon scares you once, shame on him. Big scary dragon scares you twice and you're BBQ! COME ON, SPYRO! HE'S GETTING CLOSER!!!!

Spyro and Sparx hit the bottom of the steps and take off into the bushes. Ignitus keeps after them.

EXT. DRAGON TEMPLE, RUINS AROUND THE TEMPLE - CONTINUOUS

Spyro and Sparx charge through the ruins surrounding the temple. They TEAR THROUGH bushes, DUCK UNDER low branches and DART around sharp rocks. Ignitus chases behind them.

IGNITUS
You must listen to me!

Spyro and Sparx look back -- HE'S GETTING CLOSER! Sparx grits his teeth and flutters over Spyro's back.

SPARX
Come on, Spyro -- flap what your momma gave ya!!

He grabs Spyro's wings and starts FLAPPING them -- but no dice! And then--

SPARX (CONT'D)
Look out!

Spyro looks and SLIP! He skids over a bed of loose rocks and--

SPYRO
Whooaaaaa!

--TUMBLES DOWN A STEEP HILL! Sparx tumbles with him and they both SLIDE down, Sparx holding onto Spyro's wings for dear life and riding him like a toboggan!

SPYRO/SPARX
Waaaaaaaaaahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!

WHOOOOSH! They slide FASTER and FASTER, Sparx doing his best to "steer" Spyro around ROCKS and TREES when-- CRUNCH! They crash into a TREE STUMP.

SPARX
Ow. I think I landed on my <u>wings</u>.

Sparx flutters into the air and dusts himself off. Spyro pulls himself to his feet and looks around.

SPYRO
Do...you think we lost him?

Ignitus suddenly drops out of the sky in front of them!

SPYRO/SPARX
YAAAAAAAAHHH!

Sparx jumps up.

SPARX
Let's get out of here!!

Spyro leaps to his feet and they turn to flee when -- Hunter suddenly appears in front of them.

HUNTER
Stop! He's not going to hurt you -- he's the one who sent me to find you!

Spyro and Sparx freeze.

SPYRO
What...?

Ignitus looks down at Spyro and smiles.

IGNITUS
Welcome home, little one. Come, there is much to do.

WHOOSH! He BLASTS a thicket of trees with his fiery breath and a PATH back to the temple is revealed. Ignitus starts up it. Spyro goes to follow -- but Sparx flies in front of him.

SPARX
Whoa, whoa, whoa -- are you crazy? You really want to go with this guy?

SPYRO
Sparx, I...I think I have to trust him. He's a dragon...like me.

Spyro starts after Ignitus. Sparx frowns and flutters after him, shaking his head.

SPARX
(to himself)
Why couldn't he have found out he was an elf? They're supposed to be really mellow guys...

They all head up the path when Hunter stops, sensing something. He turns and scans the ruins...but all is quiet. He shakes his head and follows the others up the path. Right as he goes...

...the bushes part behind him, REVEALING: GOBELIN #1 AND GOBELIN #2! They smile at each other and run off.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. DRAGON TEMPLE - DUSK

Two massive stone doors CREAK open and long shadows of Ignitus, Spyro, Sparx and Hunter are cast on the floor.

They make their way through the temple, their footsteps echoing off the walls. Ignitus casts a glance down at Spyro and smiles.

IGNITUS
I must say, you are a welcome sight for these tired eyes. I thought...that you were lost for good.

Spyro looks up at him.

SPYRO
Who...are you? How do you know me?

IGNITUS
I am Ignitus, the last of the Guardian Dragons. At one time...I cared for you...when you were just an egg.

Spyro looks up at Ignitus in awe. Sparx flutters up.

SPARX
(to Ignitus)
You have some identification?

SPYRO
Sparx...

SPARX
No, really -- come on, Spyro, how do we know this guy is who he says he is?

Ignitus smiles at them.

IGNITUS
I see you have a good friend here. But I assure you, little Dragonfly, I can be trusted. I'm the one who brought your brother to your peaceful glen.

Sparx and Spyro look at each other.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
I returned when I thought it was safe...but the dragonflies were gone. Dragonflies are like that. They live the way they fly -- quick, elusive and so very cautious. Which is why finding them that night was so fortunate...

Sparx narrows his eyes, not yet convinced. Ignitus smiles at Spyro.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
So...Spyro, is it? Very good. Come, there is much to explain...

Ignitus goes to lead them down a corridor. Spyro and Sparx follow him. Hunter stays by the door, peering outside.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
What is it?

HUNTER
Just...a feeling. Go, Ignitus, I will stay here and keep watch.

IGNITUS
Thank you, Hunter -- for everything. Know that the dragons are forever in your debt.

Hunter nods to Ignitus and bows slightly to Spyro. Sparx gives him look.

SPARX
(formally)
And know that the dragonflies are forever wondering why you don't have a sense of humor.

Hunter does a slow boil. Spyro gives Sparx a look.

SPARX (CONT'D)
Hey, c'mon. That cat's gotta lighten up.

INT. DRAGON TEMPLE, ROOM OF THE ELDERS - CONTINUOUS

Ignitus leads Spyro and Sparx into a sacred room in the center of the temple. Its rounded walls are covered with even more FRESCOS.

IGNITUS
This is where the Elders recorded the history of dragonkind...a history in which you, young Spyro, play a very important part...

Spyro's eyes widen. Sparx flies up close to one of the frescos.

SPARX
Look at that! So much detail. Is that watercolor or...

Sparx goes to touch the fresco but--

IGNITUS
FREEZE!

Sparx freezes in mid-air before the fresco.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
I am sorry but I must insist that you be careful. These walls have withstood great battles, but I'm afraid time has begun to take its toll.

SPARX
(insulted)
Okay, okay, jeez, give me a little credit. It's not like I was going to break it or anything...

Ignitus gives him a look and turns to a torch. He LIGHTS IT WITH HIS FIERY BREATH and steps up to the first panel.

ANGLE ON: The panel. It's a beautiful painting of a pleasant landscape. A bright sun hangs over rolling hills, DRAGONS fill the sky.

IGNITUS
Like our dragonfly friends, we are peaceful creatures at heart...

We MOVE INTO THE PANEL and it COMES TO LIFE to tell...

THE STORY OF THE DRAGONS

Dragons fly gracefully through the sky, the tips of their wings touching the clouds.

IGNITUS (V.O.) (CONT'D)
That is, before the rise of the dragon they call the Dark Master...

FIRE FILLS THE SKY! DRAGONS FALL! We hear a mighty ROAR and see two RED EYES shine out of the dark clouds.

IGNITUS (V.O.) (CONT'D)
From the beginning, his powers were unmatched. He could have been one of the greatest defenders of these lands...but he chose a different path. Drawn to evil and destruction, he used his powers to wage war on all of dragonkind.

The skies DARKEN and we move down to see -- dragons FLEEING across the landscape. Blasts of fire EXPLODE behind them, CHARRING THE EARTH.

IGNITUS (V.O.) (CONT'D)
As his powers grew, he discovered new ways to spread his terror. He began to amass a dark army, pulled from the deepest depths of the earth...

The ground starts to CRACK and CRUMBLE and...monstrous beasts emerge from the dirt! Some look like the GOBELINS, others are more twisted, winged, like the ELEMENTAL BEASTS that attacked the temple. They stumble like zombies towards a DARK MOUNTAIN in the distance.

IGNITUS (V.O.) (CONT'D)
But the dark times were only beginning. For the Dark Master was about to make a terrible discovery. He learned of the existence of a powerful crystal called the "Life Gem" that was said to be the source of all dragon magic...

A RED GLOW fills the screen and then FOCUSES TO REVEAL: the large RED GEM we saw earlier.

IGNITUS (V.O.) (CONT'D)
He realized that if he possessed this gem, he could make himself even more powerful by capturing the essences of all the dragons he slaughtered and storing them inside the crimson crystal.

We PUSH INTO THE crystal to see the eddy of ghostly dragons swirling within. There must be HUNDREDS of them, THOUSANDS...

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
Every dragon that fell added to his might. His powers grew and grew until darkness began to spread across all the lands...

We see the landscape going from green to black, trees withering, lush fields drying up into deserts. Dragons flee across the landscape. The shadow of an ENORMOUS DRAGON falls on them and then -- BLAST! Fire rains down on them and FILLS THE SCREEN.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
It was a time of great danger for--

CRAAAAAACK! Suddenly, the image starts to CRUMBLE and--

CUT BACK TO:

INT. DRAGON TEMPLE, ROOM OF THE ELDERS

--where the entire wall of frescos DROPS into a PILE OF RUBBLE. Ignitus and Spyro spin to see Sparx, frozen with a little piece of rubble in his hand.

SPARX
Uh...whoops?

Ignitus shakes his head.

SPARX (CONT'D)
Don't worry -- I can fix it. Uh, you have any glue?

Ignitus does a slow burn. Spyro steps up with a confused expression.

SPYRO
Ignitus, I don't understand...what does all this have to do with me?

IGNITUS
You, young Spyro, are the light in the darkness. In the Year of the Dragon, it was prophesied that a dragon would be born that would rise up and defeat the Dark Master. A purple dragon possessing untold powers...

Ignitus looks down at Spyro.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
You, young Spyro, are that purple dragon.

Spyro looks up at Ignitus with wide eyes. Sparx bursts into HYSTERICS.

SPARX
Him? You gotta be kidding me! He's scared of his own shadow! And I'll tell you a little secret -- he can't fly two feet without falling on his butt!

Ignitus turns to Sparx.

IGNITUS
Until two moons ago, you thought he was a dragonfly. Imagine how he might surprise you tomorrow.

Sparx stops laughing. Ignitus turns back to Spyro.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
We must begin at once.

Ignitus turns and marches out of the room, leaving Sparx and Spyro standing there in shocked silence.

INT. DRAGON TEMPLE, HALLWAY - NIGHT

Ignitus hurries down a crumbling hallway, lighting torches as he goes. Spyro chases behind.

SPYRO
Wait, wait, wait -- begin what, Ignitus?

IGNITUS
Your training. You have much to learn and very little time.

SPYRO
Hold on. Sparx is right -- I can't be the one the Elders were talking about. I can't be this...dragon of prophecy!

Ignitus stops and turns to him.

IGNITUS
There is no question.

Ignitus continues down the hall lighting torches. Spyro rushes after him.

SPYRO
Wait -- why can't you go and fight the Dark Master yourself? You're so much bigger and stronger than I'll ever be!

IGNITUS
It is said only the dragon of prophecy can defeat the Dark Master.

Ignitus looks down at him.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
And don't let my size deceive you...

He stops and spreads his wings. They are THINNING.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
My fire is nearly burnt out. This is your task, young Spyro, your destiny. You...are a very special dragon.

Ignitus gives Spyro a smile and continues down the hallway. Spyro watches him for a moment, conflicted, then--

SPYRO
I'm sorry, Ignitus, I can't do this.

Ignitus stops.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
I just wanted to find out who I was, what I was. What you're asking...it's just too much...

IGNITUS
I understand. Everyone must choose their own path. But before you go, I want to show you something...

Ignitus turns to two stone doors. He pushes them open REVEALING: a dark, CHARRED VALLEY that gives way to a DESERT OF SOOT. There's a LINE OF SMOKE in the distance, as if from a fire that's constantly burning.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
With each passing moon, the desolation spreads further across the lands. And this is only the beginning...

Spyro gazes out at the distant smoke. Sparx flies up.

SPARX
O-kay. Well, like Spyro said, this has been great. It's so nice meeting family you never knew you had. Thanks for the story, we'll just let ourselves out, 'kay?

Sparx goes to fly off. Spyro doesn't move.

SPARX (CONT'D)
Uh, Spyro...? Come on -- remember what they said in class? Fight or flight? I'd say this is a prime example of when we should choose "flight."

SPYRO
(without turning)
Sparx, look.

Spyro points to the end of the line of smoke.

SPARX
What? What is it?

SPYRO
I think that's...the glen.

SPARX
The...glen?

Spyro nods. Sparx squints...and then his eyes widen. The line of smoke is not far from the SILVER RIVER. Sparx blanches. Spyro turns to Ignitus.

SPYRO
This...really isn't going to end?

Ignitus shakes his head.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
And...you're sure I'm the only one who can stop it?

Ignitus nods. Spyro looks out at the dark landscape and seems to steel himself.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Then...I at least have to try.

Sparx's eyes widen.

SPARX
WHAT?! Spyro, are you out of your little purple mind?

SPYRO
Sparx, dragonflies choose flight. But I'm a dragon -- it's not that simple anymore.

Ignitus gives Spyro a look of pride and descends a stone staircase at the end of the hallway. Sparx rolls his eyes.

SPARX
Sheesh. Tell a guy he's a dragon and it goes straight to his head.

Sparx shakes his head and flies after them.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. DRAGON TEMPLE, TRAINING ARENA - NIGHT

The room is pitch black until -- WHOOOOSH! A burst of fire ignites a cluster of torches dangling from the ceiling like a chandelier. Spyro and Sparx look around in awe.

SPYRO
Whoa...

It's like a DOJO for dragons. CHARRED TARGETS hang from the ceiling. The walls are studded with ivory PERCHES. Wooden "TRAINING STATUES" are scattered throughout in the shape of Gobelins, Elemental Beasts, and all sorts of wicked creatures. And floating in the air is a row of CRYSTAL ORBS, dozens of them, each containing a different ELEMENT: fire, water, lightning, wind and more.

IGNITUS
For centuries, dragons have mastered their powers in this very room. I myself found my fire here...

Spyro notices the floating orbs.

SPYRO
What are those, Ignitus?

IGNITUS
Those are the dragon magics. Each dragon possesses a magic unique to themselves. I was blessed with fire. Others are masters of ice...wind...lightning...there are so many...

SPYRO
So...I guess I'm like you? My magic is fire?

IGNITUS
Well, yes...and no. You see, the dragon of prophecy is said to be...an exception. You, young Spyro, possess the potential for all the dragon magics.

SPYRO
All of them? But...I've only done fire once and that was an accident! Now I have to learn ice...and wind?!

Sparx flies up.

SPARX
You've already got wind down. You mastered that one the first time you ate bugbeans, remember? Blew me right out of the room!

Spyro stands there, shaking his head. Ignitus puts his hand on his shoulder.

IGNITUS
Do not worry, young Spyro. Mastery will come with time...

DISSOLVE TO:

TRAINING MONTAGE

Spyro and Ignitus stand under the floating orb filled with FIRE. Sparx flutters behind them.

IGNITUS
Fire. The most elemental of the dragon magics. I want you to focus on the flames and then close your eyes.

Spyro stares intently at the flames within the orb and then closes his eyes.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
Do you see still see them in your mind?

SPYRO
Uh...I think so...

IGNITUS
Good. Now I want you to try and feel something.
(MORE)

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
Feel...the blood of your ancestors coursing through your veins. As the dragon of prophecy, every dragon that came before you is a part of who you are, young Spyro. You must listen to them...let them show you the way...

Spyro concentrates harder, trying to feel it. Ignitus takes him by the shoulders and turns him towards a Gobelin training statue.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
Reach out for the fire that so many of them possessed. Feel the flames...tap into them...and then BRING THEM FORTH!

Spyro clenches, inhales, and--

SPYRO
Raaaaaaaaar!!

POOF! A small PUFF OF SMOKE drifts out of his mouth. Spyro blinks at it. Sparx breaks into hysterics.

SPARX
He said <u>listen</u> to your ancestors, Spyro -- not send them smoke signals!

Spyro sags and we--

CUT TO:

ANOTHER PART OF THE DOJO

Spyro stands on a ivory perch high up on the wall. Ignitus and Sparx flutter before him in the air.

IGNITUS
Flying. No matter what you've experienced, you <u>can</u> fly, Spyro. It is your mind, not your body, that is holding you back.

SPARX
You sure about that, Big Red? 'Cause his wings are puny and his butt is huuuuuge.

Spyro looks over the edge of the perch, scared.

IGNITUS
(ignoring Sparx)
Now. Put aside your fears and trust in what you are.

SPYRO
Alright...here it goes...

Spyro flaps his wings, jumps off the perch...and flutters there in the air.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Hey! Hey, look! I'm doing it! I'm doing it!

But then -- CRASH! He DROPS out of frame. Sparx gives Ignitus a look.

SPARX
You sure you're certified for this?

CUT TO:

ANOTHER PART OF THE DOJO

Spyro and Ignitus stand under the floating orb filled with ICE. Sparx flutters behind them.

IGNITUS
Close your eyes...and this time, let in the cold...

SPARX
Aren't there any fun dragon powers? Like the power of making delicious sandwiches?

Ignoring Sparx, Spyro closes his eyes and concentrates. He suddenly SHIVERS.

SPYRO
I...I can feel it! I feel cold...!

Ignitus takes Spyro by the shoulders and turns him towards an Elemental Beast training statue.

IGNITUS
Let it consume you...reach into the deepest depths of the ice and...BRING IT FORTH!

Spyro clenches, inhales and --

SPYRO
Raaaaaaar!!

TINK! A small ICE CUBE drops out of his mouth. Sparx breaks into hysterics.

SPARX
Yeah! Now we can make iced tea!

Sparx laughs so hard he almost shakes himself off the perch. Spyro gives Sparx a look then suddenly WINCES.

SPYRO
Ow-ow-ow! BRAIN FREEZE! BRAIN FREEZE!

Spyro grabs his head and runs OUT OF FRAME.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER PART OF THE DOJO

Spyro stands on another ivory perch. Ignitus and Sparx flutter before him.

IGNITUS
Do not think, Spyro, just fly! Fly!!

Spyro jumps off the perch, flutters in the air for a moment--

--and then DROPS out of frame again. CRASH!

CUT TO:

ANOTHER PART OF THE DOJO

Spyro and Ignitus now stand under the floating orb filled with LIGHTNING.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
They say lightning is the most chaotic of the magics, but also the most powerful...

Spyro looks up at the orb.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
Tap into the intangible, young Spyro, into the power of nature's fury...

Spyro closes his eyes and really concentrates.

SPYRO
I can feel it...I can feel it...I can--
RAAAAAAAARRR!!

Spyro spins to face a TARGET on the wall, opens his mouth and -- POP! A tiny SPARK crackles on his tongue.

SPARX
You call that lightning? I generate more current when I fart!

Sparx explodes into hysterics. Spyro spins to face him.

SPYRO
You know what, Sparx? Why don't you just shut UP!

BZZZZZZZZZZT! A bolt of lightening suddenly explodes out of Spyro's mouth and hits Sparx!

SPARX
YAAAAH!!

Sparx's dragonfly glow FLICKERS and then BLINKS OFF.

SPARX (CONT'D)
Hey -- hey, what did you do?!

Spyro's eyes widen.

SPYRO
Ignitus -- I did it! I did it!

IGNITUS
Good, Spyro! Now, quickly, from that same place, bring out--

CUT TO:

ANOTHER PART OF THE DOJO

Spyro and Ignitus stand before a row of training dummies.

IGNITUS
--your FIRE!

Spyro closes his eyes, inhales and--

SPYRO
Raaaaaaaaar!!

CRACKLE! A small FLAME shoots out of his mouth, SINGING the head of the wooden Gobelin!

IGNITUS
Excellent! Now -- ICE!

CUT TO:

ANOTHER PART OF THE DOJO

Spyro stands before another statue and -- WHOOOSH! A tiny stream of ice shoots out of his mouth, COATING THE STATUE IN ICE.

IGNITUS
Yes! That's it! Now--

CUT TO:

ANOTHER PART OF THE DOJO

Spyro again stands on an ivory perch. Ignitus flaps in front of him.

IGNITUS
--fly, Spyro! FLY!

Spyro flaps his wings, leaps off the perch, and -- DROPS OUT OF FRAME WITH A CRASH! Ignitus winces.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
Uh, perhaps that is enough for today...

Ignitus flies OUT OF FRAME, revealing Sparx fluttering there, his lights still out.

SPARX
Hey -- is someone gonna turn me back on or what? C'mon, this isn't funny!

Sparx flies OUT OF FRAME and we move towards a crack in wall, beyond which we can see the darkening night...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MOUNTAIN OF MALEFOR, ROOM OF SHADOWS - NIGHT

The black dragon Cynder kneels in the center of the room. She is much larger now, strong and monstrous. The red eyes of the Dark Master gleam in the darkness before her.

DARK MASTER (OFF)
It is time for you to spread your wings, my pet. Go to the temple and end this foolishness once and for all. Then you and I will rule these dark lands together!

Pox swings down from his perch.

POX
You and her? What about me? What about us?!

The Dark Master GROWLS. Pox cowers.

POX (CONT'D)
Uh, okay, sssure, we'll all be one big happy family. I'm cool with that.

Cynder bows before the red eyes of the Dark Master.

CYNDER
(raspy, snarling)
I will not fail you, my master.

Cynder rises to her feet, extends her black wings and flaps out of the room. Pox watches her go and sighs.

POX
Boy, I wisssh I wasss bigger...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. DRAGON TEMPLE - MORNING

The sun rises over the ancient temple of the dragons.

INT. DRAGON TEMPLE, ROOM OF THE ELDERS - MORNING

Ignitus, Spyro and Sparx sit on the floor, munching on a meal of twigs and berries. Hunter stands by the door, still peering out at the scarred countryside.

SPYRO
I don't know, Ignitus. So I can freeze a statue and turn a dragonfly's lights out. You really think that's going to be enough to defeat the biggest, meanest dragon of all time?

IGNITUS
Everything has a beginning, young Spyro. The important thing is for you to believe -- truly believe in what you are. Only then will you fully tap into the power of your ancestors.

Spyro takes this in and nods. Sparx pops a twig in his mouth and grimaces.

SPARX
Hey, Big Red. Can I ask you a really, really important question?

IGNITUS
Of course.

SPARX
You got any salt?

Ignitus gives Sparx a look.

SPARX (CONT'D)
Okay, okay, jeez, I just thought I'd ask.

Spyro pops another twig in his mouth and forces it down. Ignitus turns to Hunter by the door.

IGNITUS
Hunter, you have been on alert all night. Come, have something to eat. We are safe here.

HUNTER
I just cannot shake this feeling, Ignitus...

Hunter scans the countryside one more time and then sits down next to Sparx. He picks up a small bowl of milk and begins to LAP at it like a cat.

SPARX
(to Spyro, sotto)
See -- I told you. Disgusting.

Spyro smiles when -- BOOM! The room suddenly SHAKES.

SPARX (CONT'D)
What was that?

Ignitus and Hunter leap to their feet when -- BOOM! The room SHAKES again and the wall behind them starts to CRUMBLE!

SPYRO
Ignitus, what's happening--!?

CRASH! A battering ram suddenly bursts through the wall and an army of GOBELINS charges in with axes and clubs!

IGNITUS
Spyro -- get back!

Spyro jumps back and Ignitus SWINGS HIS TAIL, sweeping the first line of Gobelins right back out through the wall. But a whole new line instantly takes their place!

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
Hunter, we must get Spyro to safety!

SPARX
And Sparx too!

IGNITUS
(to Spyro and Sparx)
Stay behind me! Both of you!

WHOOOSH! Ignitus blasts the Gobelins with a burst of fire and charges for the door. Hunter, Spyro and Sparx follow but -- a group of GOBELINS leap in front of them!

SPARX
This doesn't look like safety to me!!

Hunter pulls out his sword and goes to work. He fights the Gobelins back, LOPPING OFF THE TOPS OF THEIR CLUBS and SHATTERING THEIR AXES -- but more keep coming!

A few leap onto Ignitus's back. Ignitus TWISTS and THRASHES, trying to shake them off.

IGNITUS
Off, demons!

He somersaults forward, launching them into the wall. BONK! BONK! Then something catches his eye and--

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
Spyro -- duck!

Spyro ducks and WHOOOSH! Ignitus releases a TORRENT OF FIRE OVER HIS HEAD! A cluster of Gobelins behind Spyro go screaming out of the room, their butts on fire.

Spyro pulls himself to his feet and sees DOZENS and DOZENS more Gobelins swarming into the room.

SPYRO
They're everywhere!

A PACK of them suddenly JUMP ONTO IGNITUS'S NECK! He wrestles with them when--

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Ignitus -- look out!

A Gobelin is at Ignitus's tail, raising an axe! Spyro suddenly CHARGES and--

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Raaaaaar!!

He shoots a SMALL STREAM OF FIRE at the Gobelin, setting his hide on fire! The Gobelin shrieks and runs off.

SPARX
Hey, look at that! Score one for grape juice!

IGNITUS
Good, Spyro!
(noticing something)
Behind you!

Spyro turns and -- three more Gobelins are charging towards him, their clubs raised! Spyro takes a deep breath and -- TINK! TINK! TINK! TINK! Shoots a barrage of ice cubes at them!

GOBELIN #4
Ow-ow-ow-ow!!

The Gobelins cover their heads and run off. Spyro smiles when--two more Gobelins GRAB HIM FROM BEHIND! He tries to fire on them but -- they CLAMP his snout closed.

GOBELIN #5
Nice try!

Spyro struggles, takes a deep breath and ZZZTTT! A FIELD OF ELECTRICITY SURGES AROUND HIM!

GOBELIN #6
Owwwwww!!

Gobelin #5 and Gobelin #6 are thrown off, as if zapped by a stun gun! Spyro pulls himself to his feet when--A ROPE GOES OVER HIS NECK!

SPYRO
Hey!

And then ANOTHER ROPE lassos him! And ANOTHER! Three Goblins drop from the ceiling with the ends of the ropes. Spyro tries to shoot fire on them but the Gobelins tug on the ropes, JERKING HIM BACK AND FORTH. They start to pull him off when, from out of nowhere--

SPARX
RAAAAAAAAAAAAARRRRRR!

Sparx suddenly CHARGES up with a stick, screaming at the top of his lungs! SMACK! SMACK! SMACK! He goes from one Gobelin to the other, hitting them in their faces!

SPARX (CONT'D)
You like that!? How about this!?

He darts behind them and -- THUNK! THUNK! THUNK! Hits them over their heads!

SPARX (CONT'D)
Yeeeeah!! That's right! Yeah!! Yeah!! Yeah!!

He keeps hitting them until they SCREECH and drop their ropes and run off.

SPARX (CONT'D)
(frothing)
Anyone else want a piece of me?! Come on!

Spyro can't believe his eyes.

SPYRO
Sparx! That was amazing!

SPARX
(as if coming out of a trance)
What--? What happened? Did I just black out?

He notices the stick in his hand and sees the Gobelins all around them.

SPARX (CONT'D)
What am I doing?! Let's get out of here! Flight, Spyro! Remember? FLIGHT!!

Sparx flies off. Spyro runs after him and up to Ignitus who's just dispatching with the Gobelins on his neck. But still more are flooding into the room!

IGNITUS
There are too many! Hunter, come on!

Hunter turns and LEAPS ONTO IGNITUS'S BACK and they all flee through a shattered opening in the crumbled wall.

EXT. DRAGON TEMPLE - DAY

Spyro charges down the temple stairs. Sparx flies by his side, terrified.

SPARX
Hurry up, hurry up, hurry up!

Gobelins start POPPING UP ALL AROUND THEM and Ignitus, flying with Hunter on his back, does his best to BLAST them away. BLAST! BLAST! BLAST!

IGNITUS
(to Spyro and Sparx)
Go! Don't stop!

Spyro and Sparx flee down the stairs and into the nearby forest. But then--

SPYRO
Oh, no!

Spyro just catches himself before he runs off a cliff! He looks over the edge -- it's DEEP RAVINE that looks like it goes forever! Spyro teeters on the edge as Sparx flies past him.

SPARX
Come on, Spyro! Fly!

SPYRO
What? You know I can't!

Ignitus takes to the air with Hunter on his back and swoops around to face Spyro.

IGNITUS
You can and you must! You are a dragon!

Spyro looks back. The Gobelins are closing in on him. He looks over the edge of the ravine. It's now or never.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
Listen, Spyro! Listen to the blood of your ancestors! Let them lift you up!

Spyro closes his eyes, trying to listen...

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
Now fly, dragon! FLY!!

Spyro takes a few steps and -- LEAPS OFF THE EDGE OF THE CLIFF! He floats there in the air for a moment, as if the whole world has slowed down, and then...

His little wings start flapping. He stays aloft. It's jerky and awkward but--

SPYRO
I'm doing it...I'm doing it!!

Sparx suddenly appears beside him.

SPARX
Look at that! Fat boy actually can fly!

SPYRO
Can you believe it, Sparx? I'm flying!
I'm actually flying! It feels AMAZING!

Spyro flaps his wings and climbs HIGHER in the air. He SHOOTS THROUGH THE CLOUDS, a broad smile on his face, when--

RAAAAAAAR!!! AN ENORMOUS BLACK SHAPE APPEARS BEFORE HIM!

SPYRO (CONT'D)
AAAAAH!!

IT'S CYNDER! Spyro tries to put on the brakes but -- he hasn't learned how to do that yet! Cynder SWOOPS towards him and reaches out with her talons! But then...

...she suddenly stops. She hangs there in the air, staring at Spyro. A light seems come on in her eyes that we haven't seen before. Spyro sees it too. He's stunned. They float there, staring at each other, when--

IGNITUS
RAAAAAAR!!!

--Ignitus suddenly appears from out of nowhere, SLAMMING Cynder away!

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
Get back, beast!

Cynder ROLLS but then rights herself and spins back around. BLAST! She FIRES, Ignitus DODGES but Cynder is upon him. She TACKLES him, they GRAPPLE IN THE AIR, and HUNTER FALLS OFF IGNITUS'S BACK!

SPYRO
Hunter!!

Ignitus goes to dive after him but can't get out of Cynder's grasp. Spyro watches Hunter fall through the air and without thinking -- suddenly DROPS HIS WINGS and GOES INTO A DIVE. He races after him and...

SWOOP! He snatches him right before he hits the ground!

HUNTER
(shocked)
Young one!

Spyro flies wildly through the sky with Hunter hanging upside down. They finally land safely on the ground and Hunter gives Spyro a look of shocked gratitude.

HUNTER (CONT'D)
You deserve every bow.

Spyro's knees weaken, shocked at his own performance, then he hears a ROAR and looks up to see Ignitus still facing off with Cynder in the air.

BLAST! Ignitus blasts her wing but Cynder is strong and quickly fires back! BLAST! BLAST! BLAST! Her black fire hits Ignitus in the chest, throwing him backwards in the air. Before he can recover, Cynder sends an explosive stream of black fire at him! WHOOOOOOSH! Ignitus ROARS in pain and goes LIMP in mid-air. He starts falling from the sky.

SPYRO
Ignitus!

Ignitus falls and falls until SLAM!!! He hits the ground, shaking the earth. Spyro, Hunter and Sparx rush to his side.

SPARX
Big red...?!

SPYRO
Ignitus! Are you okay?!

Ignitus turns to them, his eyes unable to focus.

IGNITUS
(weak)
Spyro...

Spyro grabs him and tries to help him to his feet.

SPYRO
Ignitus, get up! We have to get out of here! The Dark Master--

IGNITUS
(weak)
No...that...is not the Dark Master...it is only...his apprentice...

SPYRO
What...?

Spyro looks up to see Cynder dropping down behind them.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
It doesn't matter! We have to get out of here now!

Ignitus weakly raises his head and looks at Spyro.

IGNITUS
(weak)
Spyro...you must believe...believe in what you are and let your ancestors show you the way...only then will you fulfill...your destiny...

Ignitus gives Spyro one last look...and then starts to FADE AWAY. His thick, leathery hide is becoming TRANSLUCENT. Spyro's eyes widen in horror.

SPYRO
What's happening? Ignitus...!

Ignitus's deep red color FLOWS out of his body and STREAMS into the sky...and then he's gone.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
(devastated)
Ignitus...

Spyro stares at the patch of ground where Ignitus once lay...and then an EVIL CACKLE rises behind him.

CYNDER (OFF)
(cackling)
And now...to finish this once and for all...

Spyro, Hunter and Sparx turn to see Cynder stalking towards them.

CYNDER (CONT'D)
Say goodbye, dragon of the prophecy...

Cynder clenches, inhales and -- SUDDENLY, the ground beneath Spyro, Hunter and Sparx GIVES WAY, SWALLOWING THEM INTO THE EARTH! Cynder's BLACK FIRE just misses them and when the dust settles...they're gone and the earth is again intact.

Cynder rushes to the spot where they were standing. It's solid!

CYNDER (CONT'D)
What?!?

She stomps her feet and--

CYNDER (CONT'D)
(roaring in rage)
RAAAAAAAAAAAAAAR!

She blows a torrent of BLACK FIRE into the sky!

CUT TO:

INT. UNDERGROUND - CONTINUOUS

We are PULLED THROUGH THE DIRT with Spyro, Hunter and Sparx. ROOTS and ROCKS shoot by us as we're dragged DEEPER and DEEPER into the earth.

SPARX
(as he's pulled)
Spyro...! What's...going...on...!!?

Suddenly, a light appears at the end of the tunnel and...THUMP! THUMP! THUMP! Spyro, Sparx and Hunter drop onto a soft bed of MUD and MOSS. SCURRYING SOUNDS are heard and little YELLOW EYES appear all around them.

SPYRO
(scared)
Hunter...?

Hunter squints into the darkness.

HUNTER
Mole-Yair?

A short, mole-like creature with squinty eyes steps into the light and wriggles his nose at Hunter.

MOLE-YAIR
Hunter! Thank goodness we got to you in time, old friend! Where is Ignitus?

Hunter looks down and solemnly shakes his head.

HUNTER
It was the black minion of the Dark Master. She was...too much for him...

MOLE-YAIR
(incredulous)
What...? It's not possible...the great Ignitus...fallen?

Mole-Yair drops his head and more MOLE-PEOPLE step into the light around him. They exchange solemn looks.

MOLE-YAIR (CONT'D)
We...came as soon as we felt the movements of the earth. It is our fault! We should have been swifter...we should have...

Mole-Yair trails off, suddenly noticing Spyro.

MOLE-YAIR (CONT'D)
Is this...?

Hunter nods. Mole-Yair and the Moles brighten.

MOLE-YAIR (CONT'D)
Then perhaps all is not yet lost!
(to the other Moles)
Moles -- behold, the great dragon of Prophecy!

Spyro looks around to see all the Moles looking at him with hope in their eyes. Hunter gets down on one knee and addresses Spyro more intimately.

HUNTER
I can only imagine what you are feeling right now, young one, but the loss of Ignitus can not prevent you from fulfilling your destiny. It is up to you now. It is up to you to save us all.

Spyro looks at Hunter, looks at all the Moles, and--

CUT TO:

INT. UNDERGROUND TUNNELS OF THE MOLE-PEOPLE - BEAT LATER

Spyro rushes through the tunnel. Sparx chases after him.

SPARX
Spyro! Spyro, stop! Come on, wait up!

Spyro stops and Sparx catches up, out of breath.

SPARX (CONT'D)
Where are you going?!

SPYRO
There still may be time to get back to the glen. We can warn Mom and Dad, we can hide and--

Sparx flies in front of him.

SPARX
The glen? Don't you remember? If the Dark Master gets his way, there's not going to be glens anymore! There's just going to be...darkness.

SPYRO
There's nothing I can do about it, Sparx! Ignitus was right -- I'm not ready! And now that he's gone, I'll never be! There's nothing left to do but leave, run, get as far away from here as possible!

Spyro turns to run down the tunnel. Sparx stops him.

SPARX
Spyro, you don't have that choice anymore!

Spyro gives Sparx a searching look.

SPYRO
What? What are you talking about?

SPARX
Remember? You're not a dragonfly, Spyro -- you're a dragon. And dragons don't have a choice. They <u>fight</u>.

Spyro looks at him, taking this in, and then looks away.

SPYRO
But...even if I wanted to...I can't do it alone...

SPARX
You don't have to. <u>I</u> will fight with you.

Spyro looks at Sparx, taken by his suddenly bravery. And then--

MOLE-YAIR (OFF)
As will we.

Spyro turns to see -- Mole-Yair and the ENTIRE MOLE TRIBE standing behind him with PICKS and AXES. And then--

HUNTER (OFF)
And the Cheetahs are already on their way. Ten thousand strong.

Spyro turns again to see -- Hunter standing behind him, his sword unsheathed.

HUNTER (CONT'D)
We will all fight by your side, great dragon of prophecy.

Hunter BOWS...and everyone BOWS with him. Even Sparx. Spyro looks at the room full of his new allies. It's an awesome sight. He takes a deep breath. The choice has been made.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MOUNTAIN OF MALEFOR, ROOM OF SHADOWS - DAWN

The red eyes of the Dark Master stare at the Life Gem as...the RED ESSENCE OF IGNITUS flows into it.

DARK MASTER (OFF)
Is that...the mighty Guardian Ignitus I see?

The gem suddenly PULSES, illuminating the silhouettes of the ghostly dragons inside.

DARK MASTER (OFF) (CONT'D)
Yeeeeesss...his fire will serve me well...

There's a FLUTTER OF WINGS and Cynder appears inside the chamber. The red eyes turn on her and narrow.

DARK MASTER (OFF) (CONT'D)
Why have you returned...? I sense your errand is not yet complete...

Cynder bows down before him.

CYNDER
I do not know what happened, master, some form of magic came to his aid and--

DARK MASTER (OFF)
You...failed me?

Cynder steps back, terrified.

CYNDER
I am sorry, my lord, I--

FOOOOM! An BLAST OF PURPLE FIRE suddenly explodes out of the darkness and knocks Cynder back!

DARK MASTER (OFF)
(booming)
IS THERE NO CREATURE CAPABLE OF DOING MY BIDDING?!

FOOOOM! Another BLAST OF PURPLE FIRE slams into Cynder and...she begins to SHRINK.

DARK MASTER (OFF) (CONT'D)
EVEN YOU WHO I NURTURED...WHO I CREATED?

FOOOOM! the Dark Master BLASTS her again and Cynder writhes on the ground and SHRINKS some more. Her mighty black mass is becoming SMALLER and SMALLER...until all that remains is a young black dragon about Spyro's size. She shudders on the ground when...

...a shadow falls on her and the Dark Master finally steps out of the darkness. He's massive, monolithic, bulging with muscle and sinew. And...he's PURPLE, JUST LIKE SPYRO! He turns his red eyes on little Cynder and shakes his head.

DARK MASTER (CONT'D)
What a disappointment you turned out to be.

He inhales and is to give her one final blast when--

POX (OFF)
Massster!

The Dark Master stops and turns to see Pox fluttering in the window.

POX (CONT'D)
You ssshould ssseee thisss...

The Dark Master turns to the chamber window to see...

...what looks like a great ARMY on the horizon. Moles... Cheetahs...and the silhouette of a small dragon leading them.

The Dark Master narrows his eyes.

DARK MASTER
So it shall be.

He picks up the Life Gem, hangs it around his neck with a chain, and flies out of the room with an earth-shattering flutter of wings.

EXT. THE MOUNTAIN OF MALEFOR - NIGHT

A red sun rises over the black mountain castle. Herds of Elemental Beasts and legions of Gobelins occupy a sprawling encampment surrounding the fortress like an army laying in wait.

Suddenly, the Dark Master bursts from the highest tower and alights on a lower parapet. The Goblins and Elemental Beasts seem to gasp collectively.

DARK MASTER
Gobelins! Beasts! Loyal legions in the service of darkness! The dawn of Eternal Night is upon us! Today we fight our final battle -- and tomorrow, these lands belong to us!

The beasts SCREECH with delight and wave their CLUBS and MACES.

DARK MASTER (CONT'D)
Now go! Show them the folly of their hope!

The Gobelins and Elemental Beasts let out a GUTTURAL BATTLE CRY and CHARGE TOWARDS THE APPROACHING ARMY!

We ZOOM ACROSS THE FIELD TO SEE--

Spyro, wearing a golden BATTLE HELMET, hovering at the head of the army of Moles and Cheetahs. His eyes widen at the sight of the Dark Master's beasts charging towards him. He tries to steel himself. Beside him, Sparx, wearing his own little battle helmet, gulps.

SPARX
Uh, hey, you know something? I think I might have left the campfire on. I better go check!

Sparx goes to fly off but Spyro grabs him and turns him back around. He sets his jaw and -- suddenly kicks off and TAKES TO THE SKY! Hunter and Mole-Yair take off beside him and the Cheetahs and Mole-Men CHARGE!

The two armies get CLOSER...CLOSER...CLOSER and -- CLASH! They meet with a CLATTER OF METAL AGAINST METAL! Cheetah Warriors THROW THEIR SPEARS and SWING THEIR SWORDS. Mole Men SCATTER with their PICKS and AXES.

The battle has begun.

A huge Elemental Beast picks up a Cheetah when -- Hunter leaps onto its back and KNOCKS HIM OUT. He helps the other Cheetah up and the two charge back into battle.

Mole-Yair and two other Mole-Man charge towards a row of Gobelins. The Gobelins snicker, raises their maces and SWIPE! Mole-Yair and the Moles SUDDENLY DIVE INTO THE GROUND and CREATE A HOLE IN THE EARTH! Before they know it, the Gobelins' fall in and are buried up to their necks.

UP IN THE AIR

--Spyro and Sparx hover over the battle. Spyro sees two Elemental Beasts overcoming a Cheetah Warrior. He looks at Sparx. Sparx nods.

SPARX (CONT'D)
Bring it.

Spyro grits his teeth and DIVES TOWARDS THE BATTLEFIELD! He flies behind the Elemental Beasts and closes his eyes.

SPYRO
(to himself)
Okay, reach for the fire...reach for the fire...reach for the--

He inhales and-- BLAASSSST!! The Elemental Beasts are BLOWN BACKWARDS, HIT THE GROUND and BURST INTO BITS!

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Yeah!!

Sparx pumps his fist.

SPARX
Woo-hoo! Now that's what I call a <u>barbecue</u>! Nice one, Grape Juice!

Spyro smiles and turns back to the battle. He sees FOUR GOBELINS chasing a group of Mole Men. He narrows his eyes and DIVES towards them!

SPYRO
Hey -- is it hot out here or is it just <u>YOU</u>?

He inhales and -- POOF! He only makes a PUFF OF SMOKE! The Gobelins GRIN. They RAISE THEIR MACES when -- they suddenly DISAPPEAR FROM VIEW! Spyro looks down to see Mole Yair burying them in a big hole!

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Thanks, Mole-Yair!

MOLE-YAIR
Uh -- there are more of them.

He points. Spyro turns and sees a DOZEN MORE GOBELINS closing in!

SPYRO
Uh-oh!
(thinking fast)
There's a blizzard inside me...there's a blizzard inside me...there's a--

He inhales and BLAST!! Shoots a TORRENT OF ICE, freezing the Gobelins in place just before they clobber him!

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Yeah!!

Sparx flies up.

SPARX
May I?

SPYRO
Sure.

TINK! Sparx taps the frozen Gobelins with a stick and they SHATTER!

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Thanks, Spa--

SLAM! From out of nowhere, Pox lands on Spyro's head and slaps his wings over his eyes, sending Spyro into a tailspin.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Whoooooaaa!

POX
You like that? Then you're gonna love <u>these</u>!

Pox BARES HIS FANGS and is about to bite Spyro on the neck when--

SPARX (OFF)
Hey, bat brain -- why don't you pick on someone your own size?

BAM! Sparx suddenly flies into frame and knocks Pox off Spyro!

SPARX (CONT'D)
I got this one, Spyro!

SPYRO
Thanks, Sparx!

Spyro flies off and BLASTS more Gobelins with his fire and ice. Sparx and Pox face off in mid-air.

POX
What are you suppossed to be? A firefly?

SPARX
You want to know what I am? I'm your worst nightmare!

BAM! Sparx punches Pox in the eye.

POX
OWWW!! Hey -- I wasssn't ready ye--!

BAM! BAM! BAM! Sparx hits him three more times!

POX (CONT'D)
OW! OW! OW! That'sss it, you're asssking for it!

Pox opens his fangs wide and DIVEBOMBS Sparx. Sparx casually flies to the side and -- THUNK! Pox slams into a tree stump! He goes to pull himself off but -- his fangs are stuck!

POX (CONT'D)
Hey! Hey, that'sss not fair!

Sparx chuckles and flies off. He catches back up with Spyro as he's taking down more Gobelins.

SPYRO
Hey, Sparx -- let's see what <u>else</u> is inside me...

Spyro turns and ZOOMS towards a gang of Elemental Beasts flying after some Cheetahs. He swoops down, inhales and-

SPYRO (CONT'D)
RAAAAAARRRRR!

ZZZZZZZZZTTTTTT!!!! BOLTS OF LIGHTENING SHOOT OUT OF HIS MOUTH, SHOCKING THE BEASTS! They SHUDDER and KEEL OVER!

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Yeah!

THREE MORE come at him, their maces RAISED. Spyro closes his eyes, inhales and SHOOOOOOOOOOOSSHHHH! A GUST OF WIND rushes out of him, blowing the Elemental Beasts -- PLUS TEN MORE BEHIND THEM -- across the battlefield!

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Now <u>that</u> was cool.

Mole-Men and Cheetahs CHEER! Spyro looks around -- they now outnumber the Gobelins and Elemental Beasts! They're doing it! They're actually--

DARK MASTER
(booming)
ENOUGH!

The Dark Master suddenly drops from the sky and appears before Spyro! Spyro's eyes widen in horror at the enormous purple dragon hanging in the air before him.

SPARX
(in shock)
Spyro...he's purple...like you...

Spyro hovers in the air, gaping at the Dark Master. The Dark Master gives him an amused smile.

DARK MASTER
Well, what are you waiting for? Didn't you come here to <u>destroy</u> me? Isn't that your <u>destiny</u>?

BLAST! The Dark Master shoots a breath of purple fire at Spyro -- but Spyro dodges!

SPYRO
That's right -- and that's exactly what I'm going to do!

BLAAAAAST! Spyro shoots a TORRENT OF ICE at the Dark Master! It coats his enormous wings, freezing them in place! Spyro beams...but the Dark Master looks back and easily SHRUGS off the ice.

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Uh-oh.

The Dark Master's tail suddenly COMES OUT OF NOWHERE and WHIPS Spyro!

SPYRO (CONT'D)
Whoaaaaaaa!

He goes tumbling through the air. He finally RIGHTS HIMSELF and WHOOOOOSH! Unleashes a powerful blast of fire at the Dark Master!

DARK MASTER
(surprised)
Raaaa--!

The Dark Master is BLOWN back and Spyro flies after him and continues his attack. ZAP! A bolt of lightening! WHOOSH! A blast of wind! FOOOOM! Another blast of fire! The Dark Master flounders, falls back, and drops towards the ground!

Sparx and the rest of the creatures hold their breaths. Is this the end?

SPARX
He's doing it! He's doing it!!

Spyro flies after the Dark Master, BLASTING HIM as fast as can! ZZAAAP! WHOOOOSH! FOOOOM! He tries to close in on him but--

THE DARK MASTER
RAAAAAAAARRRR!

The Dark Master SPINS and BACKHANDS HIM WITH HIS WING! Spyro flies back, tumbling through the sky, and--

--then it happens so fast. The Dark Master is suddenly upon him, blasting with a ferocity we've never seen. FOOOM! FOOOOM! FOOOOOOOM! Over and over in unending bursts of purple fire! Spyro is blown back and forth in mid-air! FOOOM! FOOOOOM! FOOOOOOOM! It's too much for him. He's engulfed by the fire. He DROPS from the sky...and falls lifelessly to the ground.

Sparx GASPS. Hunter and Mole-Yair turn. The Dark Master CACKLES and lands before Spyro.

DARK MASTER
I spent years searching these lands for you...and now that you lie before me I realize...what a waste it's been.

Spyro squints up at the Dark Master and sees...the Life Gem hanging around his neck. The ghostly silhouettes of fallen dragons swirl inside. And then Spyro sees...HIS OWN REFLECTION CAST ON THE FACE OF THE GEM.

It's almost as if he's right there among the generations of dragons that came before him. They swirl past him and...is that Ignitus? As he passes...

IGNITUS (V.O.)
(inside the gem)
Believe...you must believe...

A new look comes into Spyro's eyes as the Dark Master inhales and prepares to deliver his final blow.

THE DARK MASTER
You're not the dragon of prophecy...
you're barely even a dragon.

FOOOOOOM! The Dark Master unloads his breath of fire -- but Spyro rolls out of the way just in time! He leaps into the air and flaps defiantly before the Dark Master.

SPYRO
You're wrong. I am the dragon of prophecy. The blood of my ancestors courses through my veins. I can finally feel it -- and now so will you.

Spyro inhales and -- **BLAAAAAAAAAASSSSSSTTTTT!** A VOLCANO OF FIRE SUDDENLY EXPLODES FROM HIS MOUTH! Purple and pulsing with energy, it blows the Dark Master back and ENGULFS THE LIFE GEM ON HIS CHEST! The gem seems to ABSORB the flames for a moment and then...

KA-BOOOOOM!!!! IT SHATTERS IN A FLASH OF BLINDING LIGHT! The world is silent as the Dark Master hangs there in the sky, his eyes wide, and then...he starts to DISAPPEAR! He FADES into the harsh light and then...he's gone.

Spyro watches as...the sky starts to DIM and the pieces of the gem start to come back together in the air! The shards reassemble themselves and the life gem GLOWS one more time and then--

--PLUNGES itself into the ground, shaking the earth. Pox pulls his teeth out of the stump and flaps into the air.

POX
Massster -- wait for me!

Pox ZOOMS into the ground after the gem. The world QUAKES around him and then SETTLES.

Spyro looks around, squinting through the fog and smoke and sees...the Gobelins and Elemental Beasts sinking back into the ground. They WHINE as their bodies turn back to DIRT AND MUD and fall to pieces.

A strong wind picks up around Spyro, and the clouds start to part. The sky CLEARS and BRIGHTENS and the BLACKENED EARTH is SWEPT into the horizon, turning the land back into the green valley it once was. Spyro's face lights up along with the world around him when--

IGNITUS (OFF)
I told you you were a very special dragon...

Spyro spins to see...Ignitus, standing in the fog.

SPYRO
Ignitus...?

Ignitus steps up and smiles warmly.

IGNITUS
You did it, young Spyro. You saved us all.

Ignitus escorts Spyro out of the fog to see -- HUNDREDS and HUNDREDS of DRAGONS. There are BLUE ONES and GREEN ONES and BROWN ONES -- a dragon for every color of the rainbow, and then a HUNDRED more. Spyro is awestruck.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
Would you like to meet them?

Spyro smiles, overcome.

SPYRO
There's so many of them! Where do we even begin?

Ignitus smiles.

IGNITUS
Let's start with my brother Guardians...

Ignitus leads Spyro to a group of three noble dragons. The first one is YELLOW and looks frenetic, intellectual.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
Volteer, allow me to present Spyro.

VOLTEER grabs Spyro's hand and frantically shakes it.

VOLTEER
(machine-gun delivery)
It borders on the miraculous, incredible, stupendous...a dragon your size defeating the Dark Master! I'm flabbergasted, flummoxed--

IGNITUS
Alright, Volteer. You'll have plenty of time to express yourself during his training.

SPYRO
My training?

IGNITUS
Yes -- these are your new mentors. Volteer will teach you how to refine your powers of electricity...

Volteer nods enthusiastically. Ignitus gestures to a BLUE DRAGON with a stodgy look on his face.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
And this is Cyril. He will show you how to better control your ice.

CYRIL
(clipped British accent)
It will be an honor, old chap! What you did out there was smashing -- really smashing! Can't wait to get into it with you and chop it up!

SPYRO
Wow...thanks...

Ignitus steps up to the last Guardian, a mighty GREEN dragon that seems rough around the edges.

IGNITUS
Terrador will help you hone your powers of earth.

TERRADOR
It's clear you have some skills...but they are very crude. Perhaps with some guidance you will become a truly great warrior.

Spyro nods. Ignitus steps in front of the Guardians smiles down at him.

IGNITUS
And of course, I will always be here for you, your mentor of fire.

Spyro gazes up at his new mentors in awe when-- Sparx suddenly flies up.

SPARX
(frantic)
Spyro! Come quick! It's...it's...

SPYRO
What? What is it, Sparx?

SPARX
I think it's...Cynder!

Sparx points to...a small black dragon limping out of the Mountain of Malefor.

SPYRO
What...?

Cynder meekly looks around at all the dragons coming out of the fog.

IGNITUS
(to Cynder)
Come, little one. It's okay.

As Cynder cautiously approaches, Spyro looks up at Ignitus, confused.

IGNITUS (CONT'D)
Cynder was once an egg in the temple just like you...until the Dark Master got to her. Your pasts are linked...as will be your futures.

Spyro looks at Cynder.

SPYRO
I think...I knew. Outside the dragon temple, I sensed something...something I couldn't explain...

Cynder looks at all the dragons looking down at her.

CYNDER
I'm...so sorry. I did so many terrible things...

Spyro approaches her.

SPYRO
It's okay. He's gone now. Everything is going to be different.

They exchange a smile when -- Sparx flies up.

SPARX
That's right it is! Let's hear it for my brother -- Spyro the Dragon!

The entire crowd of Dragons and Mole-Men and Cheetahs CHEERS and we--

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. A PLEASANT FIELD - DAY

Wildflowers bloom, pollen drifts lazily in the breeze, sunlight streams through the trees. Spyro flies up, flanked by Sparx and Cynder. Sparx is talking a mile a minute.

SPARX
It was just amazing! You were like 'ZZZT!' And he was like, 'Aw, man, you got me!' And you were like -- 'Think that's bad? How about a little of this!' And he was like--

SPYRO
I know, Sparx. I was there, remember? And you've been recapping it the whole way.

Sparx gives him a smile.

SPARX
I'm just excited to get home and tell everyone about it!!

Spyro smiles. Cynder looks at him.

CYNDER
Do you think...it will be okay? Will they let me stay?

SPYRO
Of course. They let me stay, remember?

Cynder smiles.

SPARX
I wonder if they heard about it yet. You don't think they're expecting us, do you?

Suddenly, the trees PART to reveal ALL THE DRAGONFLIES IN THE GLEN! They CHEER! Spyro and Sparx light up. Flash and Luna appear in the crowd and fly towards them.

SPARX (CONT'D)
Mom! Dad!!

Sparx flies to meet them and hugs them both.

LUNA
Oh, my boy! My beautiful boy!

FLASH
Don't you mean boys?

Flash opens his arms to Spyro.

FLASH (CONT'D)
C'mere, son.

Spyro beams and flies to them. Flash smiles.

FLASH (CONT'D)
Hey! Look who found his wings!

LUNA
I'm so proud of you, honey, but -- you know, you have to be careful. There are a lot of crazy fliers out there and--

SPARX
Mom, trust me. I think he can handle it.

Spyro laughs as Sparx ZOOMS in a circle -- and comes face to face with the beautiful dragonfly Glimmer!

SPARX (CONT'D)
(casual)
Oh, hi, Glimmer. How's it going?

Glimmer looks at him and--

GLIMMER
BWWWWAAAA!

She turns and flies off towards her friends, mortified.

GLIMMER (CONT'D)
(to her friends)
Ohmigod! Did you see that? He talked to me! Sparx the Hero actually talked to me!!!!

SPARX
(beaming)
'Sparx the Hero.' Kinda has a nice ring to it, eh?

SPYRO
Well, sure beats 'Bwaaaaa.'

Spyro and Sparx exchange a smile when--

DRAGONFLY BULLY (O.S.)
Yo -- gigantoid.

Spyro turns to see that Dragonfly Bully fluttering in front of him. Spyro narrows his eyes at him when--

DRAGONFLY BULLY (CONT'D)
Can I have your autograph?!

The Dragonfly Bully holds out a leaf and piece of charcoal and a group of other Young Dragonflies fly up behind him.

YOUNG DRAGONFLIES
Yeah - me too! Me too!!

Spyro smiles and starts signing.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. DRAGONFLY GLEN, CLIFF OVERLOOKING VALLEY - SUNSET

Spyro flies up and lands on the edge of the cliff. He gazes out over the landscape, letting the wind catch his wings and raise them up behind him.

MATCH DISSOLVE TO:

A NEW FRESCO PAINTED IN THE ROOM OF THE ELDERS. It's the exact same image: Spyro, the dragon of prophecy, looking towards his future.

Suddenly -- CRACK! The panel CRUMBLES to pieces, revealing Sparx fluttering behind it.

SPARX
I didn't touch it! I swear!!

CUT TO BLACK.

THE END